

Syrian plane lands at Cairo

CAIRO (R) — A Syrian airliner landed at the Egyptian capital of Cairo Saturday for the first time in a decade, illustrating increasingly friendly relations between the two longstanding foes. Civil Aviation Chairman Ali Zaki greeted the 306 Egyptian and Syrian passengers aboard the Boeing 747 of Syrian Arab Airlines. Along with most of the Arab World, Damascus cut ties with Cairo in 1979 after Egypt signed a treaty with Israel. Syria and Libya are the only Arab states still without relations with Egypt. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad held reconciliation talks in Casablanca last month during an Arab summit. Assad said Tuesday he would hold further talks with Mubarak, whom he described as a "friend and colleague in arms." But neither side has so far taken positive steps towards restoring relations. An Egyptian Foreign Ministry official said the special flight had no political significance and did not mark a resumption in commercial air links. A delegation of Egyptian lawyers returning from a conference of Arab lawyers in Damascus was among the passengers. A Syrian television crew and several tourism officials were also aboard.

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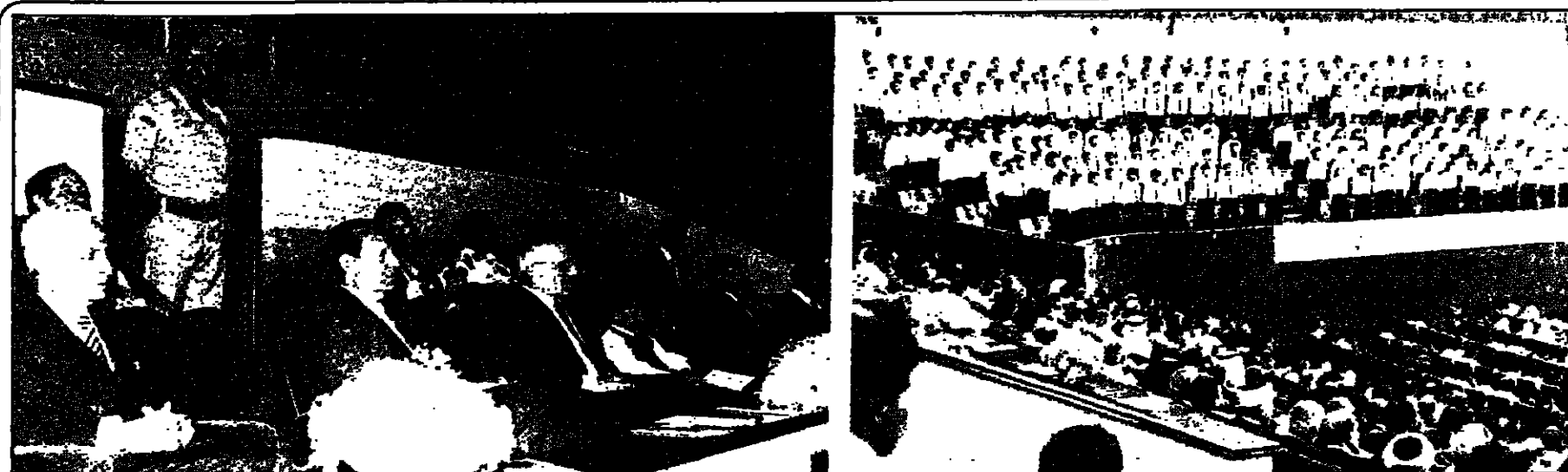
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His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi and other senior officials Saturday attend a festival organised by the Ministry of Youth

on the occasion of the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Festivities mark Great Arab Revolt anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday attended celebrations marking the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt. The festivities were organised by the Ministry of Youth at the Palace of Culture in the Al Hussein Youth City.

Khleifat and member of the Upper House of Parliament Akram Zu'eiter, delivered speeches to mark the occasion. Both said that under the leadership of King Hussein, Jordan will always head calls for Arab unity in accordance with the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.

Khleifat and Zu'eiter also paid tribute to the historical role played by the Hashemites since the beginning of Islam until the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt, which was launched by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali in defiance of injustice, tyranny, and backwardness and for

the sake of Arab unity and freedom. The two speakers also underlined Jordan's effective nationalist role under the leadership of King Hussein, a role which was clearly embodied in the establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC).

During the celebrations, literary figures from ACC countries recited poems lauding Jordan's genuine and nationalist positions which are embodied in reinforcing Arab solidarity, attaining reconciliation and accord and achieving Arab unity.

Iraq mourns Baathist founder

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said the body of pioneer Arab nationalist leader Michel Aflaq, founder of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party, was expected in Baghdad Saturday following his death in a Paris hospital.

Aflaq, 79, died Friday night in the hospital's intensive care unit after complications from surgery on June 10, Iraq's Baath (Renaissance) party leadership said in a statement issued in Baghdad. It said Aflaq would be buried Monday after official mourning in Iraq, where Saturday radio stations broadcast verses from the Koran and religious songs after the announcement of his death.

Aflaq founded the Baath party in Damascus in 1942, based on the principles of Arab nationalism, secularism and socialism.

Rival wings of the party rule in Syria and Iraq. There was no comment on Aflaq's death from Damascus, which he had been forced to leave two decades ago.

A Syrian-born Christian who had been living quietly in Baghdad for years, Aflaq still held the title of pan-Arab secretary-general of the Baath party.

The Iraqi statement said Aflaq converted to Islam years ago but he and his party comrades decided to keep it a secret during his



Michel Aflaq

lifetime so his conversion would not be politically misinterpreted. The party eulogised him as "a pioneer of human progressive Arab nationalist thought, which had led millions of Arab masses for decades in their struggle against imperialism and for Arab unity, social progress and the resurrection of the nation."

Aflaq studied in Damascus and Paris in the 1920s before returning to the Syrian capital as a schoolmaster in 1934. He founded the Baath party eight years later.

With the slogan, "One Arab Nation with an eternal message," Aflaq preached Arab nationalism and unity as the only cure for hundreds of years of foreign domination, neglect and religious upheaval.

Aflaq was in and out of jail in the early 1950s as the party struggled for influence in Syria. It was forced to disband and moved to Beirut during the union with Egypt from 1958 to 1961, although Aflaq favoured the union.

Violence follows Meskhetian refugees to Tajikistan

MOSCOW (R) — Riots in Soviet Central Asia, in which more than 100 people in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have died this month, have spread to the Republic of Tajikistan and two more people have died, according to a local newspaper.

The Communist Party daily Kommunist Tadjikistana said the trouble was sparked off by the arrival in the Republic of Meskhetian Turks fleeing from attacks in the Uzbek region of Fergana, where the latest wave of violence started.

The June 13 edition of the newspaper, which reached Moscow Saturday, said a group of strangers driving unmarked cars but apparently from Fergana arrived in the Tajik region of Ashg, just across the border, and began stirring up unrest.

"At encampments set up for the refugees, the hooligans provoked clashes with military guards and began shooting at them," the daily reported. It said the guards had issued a number of warnings, but these had failed to stop the attackers, and the guards "were obliged to resort to firearms."

"As a result, one person was killed on the spot and six wounded, one of whom died on his way

to hospital." Nearly 17,000 Meskhetian Turks, deported from Soviet Georgia by Josef Stalin to Central Asia in 1944, were evacuated from the Fergana region after 10 days of riots directed against them.

Uzbek youths rampaged through the streets, burning houses and hunting down Meskhetians, regarded as a comparatively prosperous group in an area of high unemployment and shortages.

Women were raped and corpses mutilated while police apparently stood by and, according to official accounts, in some cases directed rioters to the houses of some Meskhetian Turks.

According to official figures, 99 people were killed, most of them Meskhetians. Order was restored by 12,000 Interior Ministry troops. A curfew remains in force.

Kommunist Tadjikistana said the violence in Ashg occurred on the night of June 10. The next day, 2,000 Meskhetian Turks who had fled to Ashg from Uzbekistan were evacuated.

There has been no mention in the Soviet central press of the violence in Tajikistan

Beirut under fierce fire

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Rival gunners Saturday fought their fiercest artillery duels in a month around Beirut and the surrounding mountains. Police said three people were wounded.

A police spokesman said the shelling declined after daybreak into intermittent mortar exchanges across the capital's dividing green line.

He said two men and a woman were wounded before dawn in east Beirut, hammered all night by gunners deployed in the city's western sector.

The overall casualty toll from the 14-week confrontation between army commander Michel Aoun's units and Syrian-backed Lebanese militiamen stood at 373 people killed and 1,460 wounded. The coastline north of Beirut took the brunt of the barrage aimed at maintaining a blockade of the 800-square-kilometre enclave controlled by Aoun.

A police spokesman said Aoun's gunners fired back artillery

review recent peace efforts, Algerian Foreign Minister Boualem Bessaïeh said Saturday.

He told Reuters in Algiers no date had been fixed but the meeting would review recent international and regional contacts carried out by the foreign ministers of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia.

An Arab summit last month gave the leaders of the three countries six months to try to consolidate a month-old ceasefire in Lebanon and convene its parliament to elect a new president and adopt broad lines of political reform.

Racked by 14 years of civil war, Lebanon has had no president, a paralysed parliament city of Oran, said one informed source quoted by Reuters.

The three foreign ministers met in Algiers Wednesday and reviewed recent contacts with Lebanese leaders and permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

New Soviet deputies show clout

MOSCOW (AP) — In an unusual move, a legislative committee has rejected a protégé of President Mikhail S. Gorbachev nominated to head the government's food programme as well as two candidates to become ministers.

The rejections reported Saturday by Radio Moscow added to a list of failed candidates that included supreme court members and officials of the country's prosecutor's office.

Elsewhere on the political front, the official TASS news agency released a resolution adopted by the Soviet parliament, the Congress of People's Deputies, that calls for major improvements in the economy.

The actions showed the Supreme Soviet, revamped into a smaller full-time legislature, was breaking from its traditional automatic approval of the leadership's proposals and nominees.

Radio Moscow, in an English-language broadcast of its world service, said Vladimir I. Kalashnikov failed to win a supreme Soviet committee's endorsement as first deputy premier. Premier Nikolai I. Ryzhkov had nominated Kalashnikov June 10, saying he had vast experience in agriculture and should head a new government commission on food and purchases.

Kalashnikov, born in 1929, made his Communist Party career under Gorbachev in Stavropol, serving as agriculture chief in the region while Gorbachev was party chief there.

His most recent jobs have been party chief in Volgograd and member of a party agriculture commission.

Radio Moscow did not say why or when the committee rejected Kalashnikov but noted the full legislature could still approve him.

Committees also turned down the nomination of Polad A. Poladade to be elevated from first deputy to minister of land reclamation and water resources, Radio Moscow said. Vladimir G. Gribov was turned down to move from his post as a department chief in the state planning agency Gosplan to chairman of the board of the state bank. Also rejected was the nomination of Vasily G. Zakharov to continue as culture minister, a post he has held for nearly three years, Radio Moscow reported.

The committees began hearings last Monday on 13 Ryzhkov aides and more than 50 ministers in an exercise of the new oversight powers they gained under Gorbachev's political reforms.

The 542-member Supreme Soviet is scheduled to meet for 40 days beginning Monday to confirm the appointees and begin drafting legislation.

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'Strange' Gaza kidnap under probe

ICRC assails Israeli actions

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — International Red Cross President Cornelio Sommaruga told Israel during a three-day visit that ended Saturday that he opposed its expulsion of Palestinians and destruction of their homes.

A spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Sommaruga, who had talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin as well as military commanders, discussed human rights issues in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The ICRC chief regretted Israel's refusal to accept that the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in War should be applied to the occupied territories.

"He stated his disagreement with the destruction of houses and expulsions as means of oppression," the spokesman said. Israel regularly destroys the homes of Palestinians suspected of attacks on Israelis and has expelled dozens of Palestinians accused of leading the 18-month-old uprising in the occupied territories.

"He also mentioned the severe humanitarian consequences caused by extensive use of firearms," the spokesman said. Military commanders had given Sommaruga assurances they would protect the wounded

and medical personnel who went to their assistance, the spokesman said.

He said the ICRC president also met the families of Israeli soldiers missing in action and told them the Red Cross would continue its efforts to trace the men.

Other issues discussed by Sommaruga included Israel's treatment of detainees under interrogation, Red Cross access to detention centres, and the observance of essential rights such as family visits.

The spokesman said the ICRC president had received "promising" responses on several important topics.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces Saturday started an investigation into what officials termed the "strange" kidnapping and speedy release of U.S. relief worker Chris George.

The army hunted for George's three kidnappers in the occupied Gaza Strip while the 35-year-old director of the U.S. Save the Children Federation rested at his West Bank home with his wife and two young daughters.

George was kidnapped Thursday by three men outside his office in the Gaza Strip, pushed into a car and taken to a house somewhere in the area, where he was held for 29 hours before being released.

"I was released on condition that I pass a letter to (U.S.) President (George) Bush," he said. The letter urged Washington to end its support for Israel.

Senior officials said that during questioning, George refused to say

where he was held or to give an description of two of his kidnappers.

George told reporters that he knew his third captor through his work. He identified him as Mohammad Abu Nasser, whom local nationalist leaders said they regarded as mentally unstable.

"If people kidnapped him with guns and he's not going to cooperate, it's strange," said foreign ministry spokesman Allon Liel.

"The strange thing is that it seems he knew them, he was even friendly with them. If Mr. George wants to prevent these things from happening in the future, his cooperation would help," Liel told Reuters.

George, widely respected in the Palestinian community and considered strongly anti-Israeli by the Israeli authorities, was not immediately available for comment.

But friends said they were certain George did not want to be seen as cooperating with the Israeli authorities and that the Israeli allegations were probably politically motivated.

"This is most unfair. Chris is a very decent person and he is telling the whole truth," said Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij. "Israeli imaginations are too far-fetched and baseless."

Israel Radio described the U.S. relief worker as being "hostile towards Israel" and said that "steps have been taken against him."

It did not elaborate, but added that U.S. officials "have made it clear to Israel that George was acting on his own."

Leonard L. Lefkowitz, U.S. embassy counselor for public affairs, said he was not aware of the investigation and added: "This would be an Israeli matter, a matter for the Israeli government."



Chinese guards outside the U.S. embassy in Peking check the passport of a woman waiting to apply for a visa

Peking formally strips Zhao of all party posts

PEKING (Agencies) — China's Communist Party sacked its reformist General Secretary Zhao Ziyang Saturday and replaced him with a relative unknown, Shanghai party leader Jiang Zemin.

The two-day meeting of the party's Central Committee, which voted Zhao out and strengthened the hand of hardliners in the highest levels of the party, left little doubt that supreme power still lay with veteran leader Deng Xiaoping.

Out with Zhao from the policy-making politburo standing committee at the last party congress two years ago. But he retained the key post of chairman of the party's military commission, with Zhao as his first deputy chairman.

While having nothing to say about Jiang, 62, beyond the bare fact of his promotion to party chief and member of the standing committee, the statement heaped lavish praise on Deng.

It paid tribute to him for taking the lead in crushing the recent "counter-revolutionary rebellion," partyspeak for nearly two months of student-led pro-democracy protests in Peking.

Troops backed by tanks moved in during the night of June 3-4 to crush the protests with heavy loss of life. The massacre was swiftly followed by a barrage of propaganda, a wave of arrests of dissidents and suspected activists, and executions for alleged violence during the "rebellion."

Replacing Zhao and Hu on the committee were Jiang, Tianjin Mayor Li Ruihan and economist Song Ping, who heads the party organisation department.

Deng, 84, retired from the committee, its policy-making politburo, and the elite politburo standing committee at the last party congress two years ago. But he retained the key post of chairman of the party's military commission, with Zhao as his first deputy chairman.

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Replacing Zhao and Hu on the committee were Jiang, Tianjin Mayor Li Ruihan and economist Song Ping, who heads the party organisation department.

The other members are Qiao Shi, the party security man who had been widely pegged to succeed Zhao, conservative economist Yao Yilin and Premier Li Peng.

The committee, the nation's highest decision-making body, traditionally is made up of six officials, but had only five since Ye Jianying stepped down for health reasons in 1985.

The new committee members, while likely to support Deng's tough stance on dissent, are regarded as advocates of China's open door economic policies.

Zhao gained national acclaim with his rural reforms in Sichuan province in the late 1970s. He became a Deng protégé and was named premier in 1980. He was appointed party general secretary in 1987, succeeding the late Hu Yaobang.

Hu Yaobang, another Deng protégé, was also purged after being accused of being soft on student demonstrations. His death April 15 set off the latest round of far-larger student protests.

The central committee, in its communique, stressed that China "must not return to the old closed-door path."

But it voiced conservative aspirations, saying the party must "carry out education in patriotism, socialism, independence and self-reliance, plain living and hard work, and oppose bourgeois liberalisation in real earnest."

هولة من الاصل

12 die, 147 hurt in 336 road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 12 citizens were killed and 147 others injured, most of them seriously, as a result of 336 road accidents that occurred in Jordan over the past week.

A statistical bulletin, issued by the Public Security Department (PSD), said that most of the accidents involved cars knocking down pedestrians and that the majority of accidents occurred due to lack of proper care in driving and failure to abide by traffic regulations.

1989-1990 scholastic year starts on Aug. 15.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education Saturday issued instructions related to the agenda of the 1989-1990 scholastic year.

According to the instructions, teachers will resume work on Aug. 15, re-examinations will be held on Aug. 17, students will attend schools on Aug. 20, and classes will begin on Aug. 22.

The mid-term examinations will be held on Dec. 13 while the Tawjihi examinations for the first semester will be held on Dec. 28.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ARAB MEDICAL COUNCIL TALKS: Health and Social Development Minister Dr. Zuhair Malhas chaired the executive committee meetings of the Arab Higher Medical Specialisation Council which opened Saturday. During the two-day meetings, the participants will discuss a number of subjects related to the implementation of the recommendations adopted in the previous session, the training programme of Arab physicians in medical specialisations, and matters related to the council. (Petra)

IZZEDDIN RECEIVES ENVOY: Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim Izzeddin Saturday received Algerian Ambassador in Amman Mohammad Bergham. (Petra)

AQABA COMMERCIAL MARKET: The Municipality of Aqaba has bought the commercial market which the Housing Corporation established in Aqaba at JD 82,500, according to an agreement signed Saturday. The market includes eighteen commercial stores. (Petra)

COMMERCIAL INFORMATION: Jordan will participate in the sessions of the Arab seminar on commercial information in the Arab countries due to open at the Arab League Secretariat Monday. The three-day seminar will be attended by delegations representing the unions of chambers of commerce in a number of Arab countries. This seminar is intended to find means of establishing an Arab centre for commercial information within the framework of Arab information network. (Petra)

Visiting mufti speaks about Soviet Muslims

AMMAN (Petra) — Sheikh Muhammad Sadeq Mufti of all Muslims in the Soviet Union, who is now on a visit to Jordan, outlined the life and condition of Muslims in the various Soviet republics in a lecture delivered at the King Abdullah Mosque in Amman Saturday.

The mufti reviewed the long history of Islam's presence in the Soviet republics which produced noted Islamic philosophers and scholars like Khawarizmi over the ages.

According to the mufti, between 55 million and 60 million Muslims now live in the Soviet

republics and that four main religious administrations supervise their affairs.

Earlier, the mufti had a meeting with Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat to discuss matters of concern to Soviet Muslims and Jordanian religious assistance to them.

They also discussed exchanges of expertise in central and religious activities, such as preaching and training imams at the Ministry of Awqaf's training centre in Amman, as well as the exchange of religious publications and books.

15 scriptwriters take part in 5-day course

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day training course on scriptwriting for development communication opened in Amman Saturday with the participation of 15 officials who work as scriptwriters for radio and television stations in Jordan and a number of health educators working for the Health Ministry, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and other organizations.

Topics related to definition of developmental communication, advanced skills in message and generic scriptwriting, attitudes and language and check lists for effective "utilization of audience research data will be covered in the training seminar.

The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Health Communications Project for Child Survival Project (Healthcom) is organising the course which is held in cooperation with the Washington-based Academy for Educational Development (AED), and conducted by two international experts in communication and implementation of training programmes.

Healthcom is designed to help Jordan increase the impact of its child survival programmes through improved communication. It is jointly funded by the NHF and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Children's congress starts Monday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The ninth children's congress will start in Jordan Monday with the participation of 60 boys and girls aged between 10 and 13 from 12 different Arab countries in addition to a 10-member group from Jordan, according to an announcement by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) which is organising the annual event.

The week-long congress entails visits by the Arab children to archaeological and tourist sites in Jordan, children's clubs, the Jordan Valley, museums, cultural centres, travels around the country by train and bus.

According to a committee preparing for the event, the Arab children will spend some days with Jordanian families and will attend an Arab festival during which various types of folk activities from Jordan and

other Arab countries will be presented.

A full programme has been prepared for the entertainment of the young visitors who will have a close picture of Jordanian children's life and will acquaint themselves with Jordan's achievements and socio-economic development.

"Through their shared experiences and visits to historical sites and various other places, the Arab children are encouraged to appreciate more contemporary challenges and the ancient bonds of culture and understanding that are common to all Arab people," according to the committee.

The committee represents the ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Youth, Social Development, Tourism and Information in addition to Jordan Radio and Television Corpora-

tion, the Armed Forces, the Royal Jordanian Airline, the Haya Cultural Centre and the Friends of the Children's Club.

Last year, 78 Arab children from 17 Arab states took part in the eighth congress which entailed similar activities and events.

According to the committee the congress, which first convened in 1980 with the encouragement and under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, has become an annual cultural event for the children of the Arab World. So far, according to the committee, a total of 465 Arab children took part in the past congresses.

According to an NHF statement this year's congress will be held under the slogan of "towards a better cultural future for the Arab child."

Meeting discusses cooperation among Islamic centres of research

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (AI Al Bayt Foundation) Saturday opened a seminar on coordination and cooperation among institutes of research and study and their application within the Islamic World.

Altogether representatives of 20 various research centres, dealing with Islamic issues in the Islamic World, are taking part in the two-day seminar which was opened by the academy's President Dr. Nassereddin Al Assad, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Assad told the opening session that the seminar served as a first step towards integration among these centres and institutes and also as a means to achieve a balance in the theoretical and humanities studies.

Assad, who is also Jordan's minister of higher education, called on concerned authorities to work out a clear cut plan for research with the approval of all Islamic research institutions.

This plan, he suggested, should have a timetable and should be comprehensive and essentially based on Islamic values and heritage.

The minister called on Islamic institutions to hold biennial meetings with a view to following up the implementation of such a plan.

Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khadi, director general of the Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS) which is co-sponsored the seminar, told the meeting that the present gathering has been organised to provide an opportunity to different research institutions in the Islamic World to develop joint strategies and modalities for cooperating together within the framework of Islamic thought

and action.

"Research institutions that generate knowledge are indeed a very valuable national resource," Khadi noted.

He said that after "centuries of sufferings, decadence and deprivation, the Islamic nation is witnessing a great change" and that the long period of steady decline and stagnation was coming to an end.

"The Muslim World," he said, "is determined to regain its lost glory and there exists today a widespread evidence of a revival and upsurge of that old spirit of enquiry in the world of Islam which had once enlightened the entire world."

There is also a strong feeling to cooperate and work together to achieve collective survival and strength to meet the grave emergencies and the challenges of the future, Khadi added.

Seminar to discuss preparing school maps, educational planning

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates from Jordan and six Arab countries will gather in Amman Tuesday for a semi-regional training seminar on school maps and local educational planning.

According to the Ministry of Education, which is sponsoring the seminar in cooperation with the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ALESCO), the seminar aims to orient the participants on new concepts and technology used in educational planning, planning maps for schools, the status of the primary and second

ary stages, inter-Arab cooperation in local educational planning and the preparation of maps for schools.

The two-week training seminar will discuss the Jordanian educational strategy, educational planning in general, and the concept and objectives of the school map and its contribution towards educational development, according to the ministry statement here Saturday.

It said that the type and volume of educational services, school buildings and educational ser-

vices in the Arab region will be among the various other topics for discussion.

According to the statement, the Minister of Education, Abdullah Nsour, will open the meetings which will be attended by delegates from Egypt, Iraq, North Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Sudan, in addition to Jordan.

It said that heads of central planning departments in these countries and those responsible for education in main provinces, will take part in the meetings.

JTC, employees agree on annual increments

By Suhair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The management and employees of the Jordan Tobacco Company (JTC) have reached an agreement in principle to settle a dispute over annual increments and agreed to continue discussions on other demands raised by the workers' union. But, the situation remained unpredictable Saturday, with the workers threatening to take mass annual leave unless a formal documented version of the agreement is signed this week.

According to JTC Managing Director Mohammad Ali Al Sa'd, the management, after protracted negotiations, has agreed to give the workers their annual increment for this year and to make the temporary workers permanent starting July 1.

Other pending issues include demands that the workers' full contributions to the provident fund be paid back to them upon completing 14 years in service; and that the families of the workers be included in the health insurance scheme.

"For some time now, we have been under pressure by the union to take such action," Sa'd told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview. "But, as things stand now, the company is in a critical financial situation; it is in fact making losses. So we asked the union and the workers to wait for some time. We discussed the matter with the minister of labour and the president of the professional unions and then (the JTC board of directors) decided to grant the workers their annual increment."

Mohammad Hussein Ismail, head of the syndicate representing the 800-strong work force at the JTC, confirmed that a "tentative agreement" had been reached. But he added that a document sealing the deal was not yet signed.

"We were supposed to take our annual 21-day leave starting Tuesday (June 21) as a protest action, but instead we reduced our working hours from eight to four," he said. "If no agreement is signed by Wednesday (June 28), we will definitely take our annual leaves," he warned.

The management has a different interpretation of the issue. Sa'd says: "In normal circumstances, the average working hours are four. But in summer, the demand on cigarettes increases, warranting higher production, and the workers put in overtime work for four hours. Last week, the workers only stopped working overtime, but things came back to normal Thursday and the workers did the overtime shift."

Conceding that labour demands and disputes are fairly

common, Sa'd says that in "some cases, the company's financial status does not help even if (management) realises that demands are logical and reasonable."

According to Sa'd, the last increase in prices of cigarettes manufactured by the JTC was enough to cover the rise in prices brought about by a change in the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar.

"As a manufacturing company we import raw material. Now, prices of these materials have increased and we are unable to make up for the differences," he said.

He said that the last increase in the prices of cigarettes which benefited the JTC was in 1987. "Between that time and April 1989, the increases were all to the benefit of the treasury and the company did not have a share," he asserted. "We have demanded and we continue to demand that the company's interests be met."

Commenting on the workers' demand related to the JTC health insurance scheme, Sa'd says that the JTC management has little say in the matter. "Our workers are covered by insurance, but any decision to include their families in the scheme has come from the government," he said.

As things stood Saturday, work was continuing at the JTC plant at Ras Al Ain, the workers remaining firm on their demand that a formal accord on annual increments be signed before Wednesday and the management saying everything was under control and normal.

Salt seminar calls for more attention to handicraft industries

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar concluded in the past week at the Salt Handicrafts Training Centre in Salt city, west of Amman, called on the Jordanian public and all concerned authorities to give due attention to the handicrafts industry in Jordan.

The seminar, in which a number of engineers and technicians from Jordan and Italy took part, said in a statement that the prospect for the success of craftsmen in Jordan is great in view of the opportune climate for production, and marketing and in view of the need by the Jordanian society of the various handicraft products for individual homes and public buildings.

The participants in the two-day seminar paid tribute to the Salt Handicrafts Training Centre

which they described as an important centre serving as a springboard for the craftsmen and the creative and skilful personnel.

The centre began operations in October 1988, with training programmes in ceramics and weaving and the trainers are a team of qualified instructors from Jordan and Italy which helped to set up the centre.

According to NHF which is fully responsible for the management and financing of the centre, future plans will provide training in jewellery, metal work and glass work.

The centre's objectives are: to revive, preserve, and develop Jordanian handicrafts, form a national team of instructors at expert level, train a new generation of craftsmen capable of re-launching the trade and to document and conduct research on the various Jordanian handicrafts.

The Salt Development Corporation originally initiated the project and requested assistance from the Italian government, but later the NHF took full responsibility of the centre as part of national handicrafts development project.

The project was included in technical assistance programs of 1986 between the government of Italy and Jordan and the Italian government pledged near JD 600,000 to meet the expenses of the equipment, bringing Italian consultants to train Jordanian craftsmen both locally and Italy.

The Salt Development Corporation for its part provided JD 20,000 in addition to the premises and furnishings, while the NHF providing the centre with teaching materials, supervising the curricula and paying the salaries of the trainers and the staff.

Jordan seeks to export phosphates to Bangladesh

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prospects for increasing Jordanian phosphate exports to Bangladesh and boosting the bilateral economic and trade ties were discussed in Dacca Saturday by Bangladesh Prime Minister Mawdoud Ahmad and Mr. Wasef Azar, director general of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC).

The two sides also discussed the prospect of setting up joint fertilisers industries using Jordanian phosphate, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, from Dacca.

Azar arrived in Dacca Thursday on a several day visit to Bangladesh for talks on economic and trade ties.

Bangladesh's close neighbour, India, is the major importer of Jordanian phosphates, account-

ing to nearly \$110 million worth of the product annually.

The first Jordanian-Indian investment meeting, which was held earlier this month in Amman, resulted in agreements to set up three phosphate fertiliser related projects at an estimated cost of \$1.2 billion.

The JPMC's production of phosphate has been increased lately and, according to Azar, the first quarter of 1989 the company's mines produced 1.7 million tonnes of phosphate, registering an increase of 13 per cent over production figures in the same period of last year.

He expressed hope that the company will maintain production momentum and produce seven million tonnes by the end of 1989.



Students learn carpentry in one of the school's workshops



The Theodor Schneller School in Marka

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Study in Line and Colour" by Dodi Tabaa at the Petra Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "French Jazz Nowadays" in which several videos will be shown at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition which includes photos depicting the great role played by the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt at the Palace of Culture, Al Hussein Youth City.
- ★ A photo exhibition by August Sander at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Tents and Stones" by Samia Al Zahr at Alla Art Gallery (Flying Carpet).
- ★ An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery — 6:00 p.m.

POETRY RECITAL

- ★ Poetry recital by 'Omar Basha'uddin Al Amiri at Abdul Hamid Sheoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "Seize the Day" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.



ANNOUNCEMENT

SUPPLEMENT ADDENDUM NO. 2

Jordan Phosphate Mines Company announces the issuance of supplement for tender No. 18 F/89 (supply, supervision of erection and commissioning of 4 electrical rotary blasthole drill).

We request participants in the above mentioned tender to contact supplies chief bureau at general offices in Amman to obtain their copies of the said supplement.

WASEF AZAR
Managing Director

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
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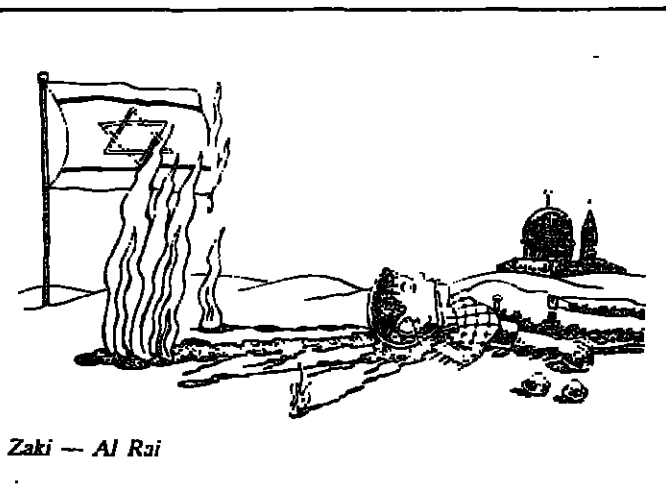
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Yes for peaceful cooperation

THE whole world stands to gain a great deal if the projected expansion of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iran that ensued from the recent Gorbachev-Rafsanjani talks would include the introduction of glasnost and perestroika to the rigid Iranian system. On the other hand the international community would have a real cause for concern if the improvement in the Moscow-Tehran relations are intended to bolster Iran's militarism. The last thing that Iranians need now in the aftermath of the defeat of their leaders' military adventurism against Iraq is to concentrate on the buildup of their armed forces in a degree that would ignite once again the lust of Iranian militarism and aggressive policies against its neighbours.

At a time when the ceasefire concluded between Iran and Iraq is still fragile the least that one would hope for from the enlightened Soviet leadership is to abstain from refurbishing the Iranian army's arsenal. Rather, it would be more prudent to exploit the recent rapprochement affected between Moscow and Tehran to realise other goals and aspirations with a view to allow glasnost and perestroika, as the world came to know them and got infatuated with them in the wake of Mikhail Gorbachev's rise to power in the Soviet Union, to take deep root in Iran as well.

Surely the Soviet Union would want to take exception to the call by Iran's parliamentary speaker Ali Akbar Rafsanjani for closer contacts between the Soviet Muslims and their Iranian counterparts if that would entail the spread of Khomeini style fundamentalism within the ranks of the Soviet citizenry. Needless to say, the Soviet Union is no novice power when it comes to understanding the implications of flirting with the Iranian leadership as presently constituted. Whatever the geopolitical considerations that propelled Moscow to conclude broad sweeping agreements with Rafsanjani, one would hope that such short range consideration would not blind the Soviets as to the long range perils that could lie behind rendering the Iranian regime more confident militarily. It goes without saying that such long term dangers affect the Soviet Union's internal stability as much as it touches on the issues of war and peace in the Gulf region.



Zaki — Al Rai

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

A Jordanian Arabic Daily said on Saturday that Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin had admitted it was too difficult for Israel to deal with the intifada, but as long as the Shamir elections plan is being accepted by the United States, the revolt can be fought with an iron-fist policy. Al Rai's daily said that the statement coincided with Shamir's statement that his plan to hold elections and Washington's acceptance of the idea have delayed any thinking on the part of the international community of the projected international peace conference to find a peace formula for the Palestine problem. Thus, the paper said, it is clear that the United States which backs Shamir's plan and which continues to supply Israel with political, moral, material, military and economic assistance despite its atrocities in the occupied territories, is itself impeding the convening of the conference and helping the Israeli government to deal with the intifada as Rabin said; and also enabling Shamir to maintain his iron-fist policy in the Arab land. It is true that the United States policy has improved one step at least through the on-going U.S.-PLO dialogue, but it seems to us now that Washington is exploiting the dialogue as a lever to exert pressure on the PLO to force it to accept Shamir's terms and conditions, the paper noted. Thus, it concluded, the United States is proving to the world that it is seeking an alternative to the international conference which only Tel Aviv and Washington continue to reject.

A columnist in Al Rai's daily calls for an open public dialogue or an open forum in Jordan to discuss the question of accepting Jordanian students at Jordanian universities. Salah Abdul Samad says that the question of enrolling at the university is on the mind of all Jordanian students together with their parents who naturally think of ways to ensure education for their children and for their future. The students who graduate from Jordanian schools every year constitute a fairly large sector of the public; and it is only right to think of ways to do them justice by openly and seriously discussing their future and the future of their country, says the writer. Abdul Samad calls on concerned parties and the general public to hold meetings, seminars and discussions in order to fully debate the future of the thousands of school graduates with a view to helping the largest proportion to enter college and attain higher standards of education. Such meetings, he adds, are bound to find better solutions and are bound to help find a better prospect for the students than the present situation.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

How to cover the foreign exchange gap

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

THE Minister of Finance has recently revealed that the foreign exchange gap, as reflected by the projected balance of payments for 1989, will be in the order of \$900 million. He expressed unreserved confidence that this gap would be smoothly bridged.

The current account of the balance of payments was frequently in the news in recent weeks. The need to understand this expression became more apparent, as it is no more a technical matter for the economists, but has an impact on day to day life. This article will try to do just that, and to analyse the anticipated deficit and the possible ways to measure, influence, and cover it.

The balance of payments can be divided into three major sections: (a) the current account, which covers normal transactions of imports and exports of goods and services, foreign aid, expatriates income and outgoing remittances, and all recurring day to day exchange with the world; (b) capital account which covers external borrowing, lending, repayment of loans, outgoing and incoming investments; and (c) the monetary sector which reflects the final net position in the form of change in the foreign assets and liabilities of the banking system.

Jordan's balance of payments has always shown a big deficit in the current account, because payments in foreign exchange for the import of goods and services far exceeded receipts from

exports, even after taking into account the expatriates remittances. On the other hand, the capital account used to reflect a surplus because Jordan was always borrowing more than it could repay.

The banking system reflected various results from one year to the other. In certain years the surplus of the capital account was more than sufficient to cover the deficit of the current account. In that case the difference would show as an improvement in the net position of the monetary sector in the form of an increase in foreign assets or a decrease in foreign liabilities or both. In other years, the surplus of the capital account was less than enough to cover the full current account gap. In this case the net deficit was covered by drawing on the reserves, and thus the foreign assets of the banking system decreased or its foreign liabilities increased or both.

After the eruption of the current economic crisis, the capital account (external borrowing and foreign investments) became no more able to post a surplus, because borrowing externally became more difficult while repayments were accelerating due to lapse of grace periods. Thus the capital account started to add to the gap in the current account instead of offsetting it totally or partially.

The over-all gap in both accounts, i.e., in the balance of payments of 1989 as a whole, is estimated to be in the order of \$900 million, assuming no rebuilding of foreign reserves.

Deficit in the current account, or the balance of payments, should not be measured in absolute figures. Otherwise the financial gap in Jordan will look trivial in comparison with the gap in the current account of the United States estimated at \$135 billion, or 150 times Jordan's total gap. The deficit must be measured in relative terms as a ratio of gross national product (GNP). According to this yardstick, the American deficit is 2.8 per cent, the British 3.2 per cent, the West German surplus is 4 per cent, and the Japanese surplus is 2.8 per cent, while the Jordanian deficit in the current account is in the order of 6 per cent, while the over-all gap in the balance of payments can reach up to 25 per cent of GNP.

This gap will be covered in two ways, first, rescheduling of debts which will reduce capital account deficit by some \$600 million and, second, fresh borrowing from the IMF, World Bank and other developmental funds of \$275 million. The need to borrow abroad may be reduced if Arab financial aid exceeded the estimated \$400 million. This is very likely to happen as indicated by the usual confidence expressed by Jordanian officials.

China fills a 'vacuum' in the Middle East

By Mushahid Hussain

IN THE last five years, the People's Republic of China has made subtle but significant political inroads into the Middle East. In the process, the Chinese have endeavoured in their modest way to fill part of the "vacuum" created in the region by disillusionment with both superpowers.

During this period, the Chinese have sought to promote their arms sales both to fill their need for hard currency (currently China exports \$2 billion worth of arms annually) and to increase China's political clout in the region. Interestingly China has developed a close military relationship with three major Muslim states, moving ahead on these ties despite stiff opposition from the United States. With all three — Pakistan, Iran and Saudi Arabia — China's military assistance has been important, since it has included exports of sophisticated armaments, but it was all done in a characteristic, low-key manner.

In April 1984, when President Reagan visited China, a nuclear cooperation agreement was initiated between the United States and China. However, this nuclear accord, the first between the two countries, was stalled following the public expression in June 1984 of U.S. "concern about unsafeguarded nuclear activities in Pakistan." The American suspicion then was that U.S. technology, to be given to China under the agreement, might in turn be passed on to "help other states to produce nuclear weapons." In October 1987, the Reagan administration announced that it had curbed plans for the export of all high technology to China in protest against the sale of Chinese-made Silkworm missiles to Iran, the first time that the United States had acted against a third country for selling arms to Iran.

In March 1988, there was the surprise announcement that China had sold long-range surface-to-surface missiles to Saudi Arabia. This sale was all the more important, given the previous almost exclusive reliance of Saudi Arabia for arms on the United States and the fact that China and Saudi Arabia do not have formal diplomatic relations. It was later learnt that the Saudis had turned to the Chinese following the Reagan administration's inability to overcome congressional opposition to the sale of additional F-15 aircraft and the Lance missile. Concurrent with these developments have been reports of quiet military and economic cooperation between China and Israel, coupled with a slight softening of China's pro-Palestinian stance.

China's objectives

The Chinese role and priorities in the Middle East have reflected different objectives during different timeframes. During the 1950s and early '60s the Chinese role was minimal and its objectives were confined to promoting anti-Americanism and supporting liberation movements. Interestingly, after the establishment of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949, Israel was the first country in the region to recognise it in January 1950. However, despite low-level official contacts, diplomatic relations were not established. But China was also the first non-Arab country to recognise the Algerian FLN in 1958 and the PLO in 1965, before the Soviet Union did so.

During the late '60s, as its conflict with the USSR intensified, China came to see the Middle East as an area to promote "anti-Sovietism" and cash in on Soviet reversals. This led the Chinese to develop closer relations with those countries that were critical of the USSR, including Egypt, Sudan, Pakistan and Iran. During this period, China also developed a relationship with the United States.

China's big opportunity to develop a substantial political role in the Middle East came in 1979 with two developments that adversely affected both superpowers. In Iran, the revolution overthrew the pro-American monarchy and in Afghanistan the Soviet military intervention led Moscow into a political quagmire. Although initially China's relations with the revolutionary government in Iran were rather cool (the Communist Party leader Hua Guofeng was one of the last foreign leaders to visit the shah, in September 1978, just a few months before his demise), the Chinese were quick to note that while the Iranians had taken themselves out of the American orbit they had not warmed to the Russians. In fact, in an early move, the Chinese sent a verbal message through Pakistan's foreign minister, Agha Shahi, in April 1979, expressing their "regrets" over Hua Guofeng's visit, and sought "better understanding" in bilateral ties in the future.

Afghanistan a launching pad

The Chinese saw the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan as part of a broader geopoliti-

cal offensive which included moves in Afghanistan, South Yemen, where the pro-Chinese president, Salim Rubbaya' Ali, was assassinated in June 1978, as well as the Soviet-backed Vietnamese intervention in Kampuchea. Developments in Afghanistan in particular provided the launching pad for Chinese entry into the Middle East, with active solidarity on an issue of vital importance for the Muslim world. Since friendship with China had been a cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy since 1963, so China's policies on the Afghan issue were closely coordinated with Pakistan. During the period following the April 1978 left-wing coup in Kabul (which led later to the Soviet invasion) Pakistan's "concern" was voiced publicly. Islamabad sought the cooperation of three countries that it felt could be helpful in meeting what was seen in Islamabad as a "new challenge." Of the three, the United States and Saudi Arabia started supporting the resistance to the Kabul regime before the Soviet intervention. China chose not to support the Mujahadeen either financially or through military assistance until the USSR physically intervened.

Interestingly, China was one of the countries with which Afghan President Daud was keen to strengthen ties shortly before he was killed in the April coup. Only a month before the coup, Afghanistan and China signed an important economic agreement that provided for a substantial increase in bilateral trade as well as Chinese credit for construction of factories in Afghanistan. Although China did not take kindly to the ouster of Daud and the formation of an overtly pro-Soviet regime, as late as October 1979 the Chinese conveyed their reluctance to Pakistan to aid the Mujahadeen militarily.

But this situation changed with the Soviet intervention and the Chinese developed a coordinated approach on this issue, on the one hand with the United States and on the other with Pakistan. In January 1980, U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown went to Beijing and both China and the United States agreed to launch a programme of military aid to the Mujahadeen via Pakistan.

China built up an anti-Soviet united front of sorts with the United States to counter the Soviet role in Afghanistan. Poli-

tical intimacy with Washington was matched by defence cooperation and exchange of intelligence data so that China was kept posted about developments in the Soviet Union. According to reports, China allowed the United States to establish listening posts in its province of Xinjiang, on the Soviet border, in 1981. The Americans were actually replacing listening posts which they had lost in Iran after the revolution there.

Arms sales on the increase

During the '80s, the Chinese have moved with pragmatism and flexibility in the Middle East seeking to promote their political clout through arms sales, a policy which ironically they accused the Soviets of pursuing in the '60s. However, as an exporter of arms, the Chinese have a distinct advantage over both Moscow and Washington since they have no direct vested interests in the region: China is not seen by countries of the region as carrying any "extra baggage" or "strings attached" to its sale of arms. Chinese arms exports during the 1981-1985 period totalled \$5.4

billion, compared to \$810m in the preceding five-year period — a more than six-fold increase in less than a decade. Out of these, approximately \$4.2 billion have gone to Middle Eastern countries, particularly Iran and Iraq.

China's softening on the Palestinian issue was reflected in a statement made by Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang during a visit to Egypt in December 1982 when he publicly accepted the right of Israel to exist and also extended support for the Arab League's Fex plan. Related to this softening on Israel have been some well publicised talks between officials of the two countries, the most important being the September 30, 1987 meeting in New York between Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and the Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. However, the Chinese made it clear during a meeting with the visiting chief of the Israeli Communist Party, Meir Wilner, in July 1987, that "there is no question of China establishing diplomatic relations with Israel until such a time as Israel abandons its aggressive and imperialist foreign policy" — Middle East International, London.

Historical rivalries among allies emerge

By Alison Smale
The Associated Press

BUDAPEST — Almost every day, Hungary's state-run media carry a fresh report about privation in Romania or a purported shooting on the heavily guarded border between the two nations. Hungary and Romania are allies in the Warsaw Pact military alliance, but not even a summit of their Communist leaders last August could ease the tensions between them.

The case illustrates the depth of many historically rooted quarrels now reappearing in the once-monoethnic Soviet bloc that includes East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria.

For centuries, Eastern Europe has been a volatile region of shifting political allegiances and changing borders. A violent history has made nationalism and powerful force and left many

ethnic groups in the area with a long list of grudges against neighbours.

World War I broke up the once vast Austro-Hungarian empire and World War II left the Kremlin dominant in Eastern Europe. Authoritarian Communist governments took power after the Red Army swept in and ended Nazi Germany's reign.

The Soviet Union, following the model laid down by Josef Stalin, used to exert pressure on East European Communist parties to maintain outwardly friendly relations. Soviet troops stationed in East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary have been a controlling factor.

Until recently, traditional conflicts among ethnic groups with different languages and cultures lay mostly dormant under slogans trumpeting the international solidarity of Socialism.

Now, the Soviets are preoccu-

pied with their own economic and social woes, and the ethnic tensions are bubbling across the borders. The East European allies, grappling with Kremlin-led calls for democratic reforms, are reopening old, festering wounds.

More such conflicts could occur if Kremlin controls are further reduced in the region and if governments permit their populations a greater voice in political decisions and social reforms. Ethnic groups and other special interests might become bolder about pressing for their rights — both at home and in neighbouring countries.

But it is impossible to predict whether such issues would ever have a controlling effect on relations among the East European nations, which in many cases have closely linked economies.

Current quarrels vary from ideological differences over the pace of governmental reforms in Poland and Hungary and other

countries to territorial disputes, minority rights and even cross-border pollution.

East Germany and Poland have argued over their common border and fishing rights in the Baltic Sea; Romania has angered Bulgaria by sending chemical waste wafting across the Danube and customs wars have flared in a region strapped for consumer goods.

Last November, Czechoslovakia annoyed the entire bloc by slapping restrictions at 48 hours' notice on the export of just about every consumer product that Soviet bloc visitors might envy in Prague's relatively well-stocked shops.

Poles were especially outraged by measures that included confiscation of purchases intended as Christmas gifts. Polish travellers felt that the Czechs were deliberately reviving a historical enmity between the two populations.

The customs crackdown was

designed to protect living standards that have helped Prague's hard-line leaders keep outward peace with a population disgruntled ever since the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion crushed Alexander Dubcek's reformist government.

But the action immediately touched off retaliations throughout the East bloc, with each country, including the Soviet Union, slapping export bans on any consumer goods popular with tourists from elsewhere in the region. That conflict has since died down.

The most serious dispute involves Hungary and Romania. Smoldering throughout the 1970s, it erupted into the open in late 1986 over the seemingly innocuous issue of a Hungarian history book on Transylvania, a mountainous region ruled by Hungary for centuries but ceded to Romania after World War I.

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Features



Connery and Ford as the father-and-son adventures.

Petra's ancient glory outshines Hollywood stars

By John Rice
The Associated Press

PETRA — Nor far from the site of movie character Indiana Jones' final triumph, bedouins hawk ancient coins and pottery chips, fake Roman oil lamps and three-minute rides on a grunting camel.

There's no sign of the cinematic swashbuckler — not even a bullwhip or souvenir fedora.

"Nobody knows nothing about Indiana Jones," says Mohammed Ibrahim Al-Hasanat, a guide to the 2,000-year-old ruins of Petra, where the climax of the new movie "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" was filmed with Harrison Ford and Sean Connery.

Bedouin boys who guide tourists on horseback to the site shrug their shoulders and look puzzled at the mention of the movie.

Petra, once the heart of a great trading empire, is not the sort of place where first-run films play.

Tens of thousands of tourists annually visit the remote mountain valleys, shaped and tinted like melting scoops of multi-colored ice cream, to see Petra's eerie classical monuments.

The makers of "Last Crusade" chose Petra's most famed edifice, the 426-metre-tall treasury, as

the facade for the encounter by the fictional archaeologist with the Holy Grail, the cup used by Jesus Christ at the Last Supper.

Local bedouins once sought lesser treasures from the monument, probably hewn from its reddish rock slab a few years before Jesus walked the streets of Jerusalem 160 kilometres to the north.

A curved cylinder resembling a chess piece atop the monument is scarred by the gunshots of those who tried to break it open, believing ancient men had left riches inside.

"Nobody knows if there is any treasure or not," another guide, Mohammed Al-Ashram, said as he pointed to the bullet marks.

"The people have heard about this (legend) for maybe 10 generations."

Most of the bedouin seek their gold from the tourists — offering horseback rides, homebrewed tea, lukewarm soda pop and minor antiques to the visitors.

Almost 1,000 metres from the treasury, Archaeologists from the University of Utah in the United States are at work on excavations.

Digging through a temple dating from the time of Christ, they hope to find more clues to the life

of the Nabateans, who built Petra and ruled a kingdom just beyond Rome's domain.

The sprawl of their capital is evident from the high place of sacrifice, an altar to pagan Gods complete with a runoff channel for blood.

The dizzying rock summit overlooks kilometres of canyons and hillsides carved with the distinctive Nabatean monuments and even earlier Edomite remains.

From a peak at Petra, the Bible says, the Hebrew chieftain Amalek hurled 10,000 Edomites to their death.

On another summit nearby, the Biblical Prophet Aaron died. The village just outside Petra, Wadi Musa, is where locals believe Moses struck a rock and made water run.

Real Crusaders in the middle ages left their mark as well in two small castles meant to help protect the kingdom of Jerusalem.

A few kilometres north of Petra, archaeologists have discovered the 9,000-year-old village of Beidha, among the oldest settlements ever excavated.

With so much history scattered across the rocks, many of the workers and residents at Petra seemed blasé about the arrival and departure of a screen star.

An Israeli posing as an Arab gets a first hand look at the treatment of Arabs by the Israeli system

With his own eyes

By Gregory Jensen

In a chilling new book, Israeli reporter Yoram Binur tells how he posed as a Palestinian refugee in an attempt to experience and understand the life of a people under military occupation. "I was seeing the time-bomb ticking," he says.

YORAM Binur is an Israeli Jew who disguised himself as a Palestinian Arab, becoming a foreigner in his own land to experience first-hand the life of a people under military occupation.

He tells his remarkable story in a new book entitled *My Enemy, My Self*. It's a chilling tale.

"As an imposter," Binur writes, "I was able to understand for the first time what it means for a man to feel afraid and insecure inside his own home when a military patrol passes by his window."

"When I was gripped by the paralysing fear myself, when I felt it in my guts, I grasped a dimension in their lives in concrete fashion."

It was to gain such understanding that Binur, 34, a weekly newspaper reporter in Israel, donned the identity of "Fat'hi Awad," a Palestinian from the Balata refugee camp in the occupied West Bank.

His experience parallels that of West German journalist Guenter Wallraff, who spent two years posing as a Turkish migrant worker and wrote a book, *Ganz Unten*, which rocked Germany.

For his pains, Binur was beaten by Israeli soldiers for no other reason than being in the wrong place. Previously, Binur himself had been an army officer.

As he worked his way across the country in his Arab guise he was repeatedly searched, mistreated by Israeli employers and subjected to the harassment and curfews normal in the occupied territories.

"I was seeing the time bomb ticking," Binur said in an interview in London. "As an Israeli, I saw how my own society is being corrupted."

"I am very frightened for the future of democracy in Israel," Binur is a big, stocky man, his

abundant black hair now cut short, wearing rimless spectacles. But with tousled hair, thick stubble and a *Keffiyeh* around his neck, it is easy to imagine him as "Fat'hi Awad."

At first he pretended to be a Palestinian only for a few hours at a time, within Israel, to research an article for his newspaper. But soon he decided to maintain the impersonation on a long-term basis, would write about house demolition, about claims by Palestinians they had been beaten, about the way they are mistreated at menial jobs in Israel.

"But nobody wanted to listen to these things. Israelis were not interested."

"I had a lot of knowledge about what was going on in the territories," said Binur, who speaks fluent Arabic. But despite that and his appearance, he knew the risks he ran.

"Yes, of course it was dangerous," he said in the interview. "The Palestinians know all about infiltrators and agents, and I knew I might be taken as an agent for the security services, a spy or a traitor."

But for months, sometimes shadowed, by a friendly photographer, "Fat'hi Awad" plunged into the life of a Palestinian Arab, from Gaza Strip ghettos and West Bank refugee camps to the darker areas of Tel Aviv — and even onto a Kibbutz.

About 120,000 Palestinians normally live in the occupied territories but work in Israel. Binur first became one of them in a Tel Aviv restaurant.

He lived in a filthy flophouse for Arabs in Tel Aviv, spent weeks in the huge refugee camp of Jebelya, south-east of Gaza City, and became an unusual "Palestinian" volunteer on a Kibbutz, where he had to pretend not to speak Hebrew.



Pretending to be a Palestinian, Yoram Binur (right) talks with Palestinian refugees in their improvised tent of burlap sacks near the town of Hebron.

Binur "became" an Arab so thoroughly that he virtually was "an anonymous fellow from the West Bank who had no connection with me."

Eventually, he writes, "all my thoughts and even my dreams, as far as I can remember, were in Arabic." At one point he convinced suspicious Palestinians he was not a spy by accurately quoting the Koran.

My Enemy, My Self is not a polemic book. Binur's writing is cool, careful, almost always highly restrained. He seems determined to avoid emotion and let facts speak for themselves.

His unusual research prompted "no far-reaching conclusions," he writes.

"To state that Arabs are discriminated against in the Jewish State of Israel is hardly an earth-

shaking revelation.

Before his imposture, Binur knew most Israelis thought of Palestinians without understanding, in derogatory clichés. He found that most Palestinians regard Israelis similarly.

Palestinians consider his book "the most honest attempt to understand the situation," he said.

When it was published in the United States earlier this year, American Jews "saw me as a traitor, as a man who stabs his nation in the back, as if I'm the one that breaks their dreams."

But in Israel itself, the work has not been published as a book. One reason may be a conclusion Binur reaches almost in spite of his attempt to stay neutral.

A continuation of Israel's military presence in the West Bank

and the Gaza Strip threatens to change Israel into a place which some people, myself included, will find unlivable," he writes.

"Simply put, I am tired of having it witness the disastrous results of the occupation everyday, as well as frightened of the possibility that many people on both sides may be doomed to suffer bloodshed and destruction."

Binur wrote those words soon after the Palestinian intifada exploded.

The uprising, he adds in a kind of postscript, "has very much increased the level of distrust."

"The events I had intended to warn about are coming to pass even as the writing itself is being published" — *KT-Compass Service*

Garlic — it smells, but, oh, does it heal!

By H.K. Bakhyr

THE garlic, a garden vegetable of the onion family, has been cultivated from time immemorial. It has been variously described as a food, a herb, a medicinal plant, an antiseptic and a beauty accessory by various people at different times throughout the ages.

Garlic is an important condiment crop. It is an erect biennial herb, normally grown as an annual. It has adventitious roots, a condensed, flattened stem and narrow, flat leaves. The bulb consists of six to 35 bulblets called cloves which are enclosed in a thin whitish transparent covering.

The botanical name of garlic is *Allium Sativum*. It is believed to have originated in central Asia and was known to the Chinese as far back as 3,000 BC. It continues to be an essential part of the Chinese diet even today. Garlic arrived thousands of years ago in the Mediterranean region.

It was being grown in ancient China, Egypt, Greece and Rome and was used both as a staple food and a medicine for several ailments. It spread to all parts of the world and is now widely grown in the Mediterranean area, India, the Philippines, China, Ethiopia, Kenya, Brazil and Mexico. It grows well in a cool climate with dry weather.

For centuries, garlic has been held in high esteem for its health building qualities all over the world. Khnoum Khoufouf, the builder of one of the oldest pyramids (4500 BC), was among the first to recognise the virtues of garlic, for he decreed that all his workers should take garlic everyday so that they could maintain their health and strength.

Food Values: An analysis of garlic shows it to contain mois-

ture — 62.0 per cent, protein — 6.3 per cent, fat — 0.1 per cent, minerals — 1.0 per cent, fibre — 0.8 per cent and carbohydrates — 29.8 per cent per 100 gms of the edible portion.

Its mineral and vitamin contents are calcium — 30mg per cent, phosphorus — 310 mg per cent, iron — 1.3 mg per cent, riboflavin — 0.23 mg per cent, niacin — 0.4 mg per cent and Vitamin C — 13 mg per cent. It also contains traces of iodine, sulphur and chlorine. Its calorific value is 145.

Medicinal Virtues: In herbal medicine, garlic has been traditionally used for such ailments as asthma, deafness, leprosy, bronchial congestion, arteriosclerosis, fevers, worms and liver and gall bladder troubles.

Babhet, an eminent Ayurvedic authority, is of the opinion that garlic is good for the heart, food for the hair, a stimulant to appetite, a strengthening food, useful in leucoderma, leprosy, piles, worms, catarrhal disorders, asthma and cough.

Clinical experiments in recent times have confirmed several ancient ideas about the healing value of this vegetable. These experiments have in fact proved that garlic has a greater power than was known previously.

The odour in garlic, which constitutes its unpleasant feature, has been traced to its sulphur content. This mineral is contained to a greater degree in its volatile oil, which has a marvellous therapeutic value.

Chest Diseases: Garlic has proved to be highly effective in certain diseases of the chest. It has been found to reduce toxicity of the breath in pulmonary gangrene.

The use of garlic in tuberculosis of the lungs has shown that if garlic were given in sufficient quantities, it was a marvellous remedy in the treatment of pneumonia.

Garlic has been used for many years in pneumonia, and in no instance did it fail to bring down the temperature, as well as the pulse and respiration, within 48 hours. Garlic can also be applied externally to the chest with beneficial results as it is an irritant and rubefacient.

In Ayurveda, a decoction of Garlic boiled in milk is considered a wonderful drug for tuberculosis. One gramme of garlic, eight ounces of milk and two pounds of water are boiled together till only one fourth of the decoction remains. It should be taken thrice in the day.

Asthma: Three cloves of garlic boiled in milk can be used every night with excellent results in asthma. A pod of garlic is peeled and macerated and boiled in four ounces of pure malt vinegar.

After cooling it is strained, and an equal quantity of honey is mixed and it is preserved in a clean bottle. One or two teaspoons of this syrup, taken with fennel decoction once in the evening and before retiring, have been found effective in reducing the severity of asthmatic attacks.

Digestive System Disorders: Garlic is one of the most beneficial foods for the digestive system. It exercises a beneficial effect on the lymph, aids in elimination of noxious waste matter in the body. It stimulates peristaltic action and the secretion of the digestive juices. Crushed cloves of garlic may be infused in water or milk and taken for all disorders of the digestion. It has an antiseptic effect and is an excellent re-



Garlic has been variously described as a food, a herb, a medicinal plant, an antiseptic and a beauty accessory by various people at different times throughout the ages.

medy for infectious diseases and inflammations of the stomach and intestine. The oil of garlic is absorbed into the alimentary tract and is eliminated partly through the urine.

Garlic produces a very marked effect on the intestine. It is an excellent agent as a worm expeller. It has also a soothing effect on the various forms of diarrhoea. Problems such as colitis, dysentery and many other intestinal upsets can be successfully treated with fresh garlic or garlic capsules. Garlic has the ability to destroy harmful bacteria in the intestines without affecting the beneficial organisms which aid digestion.

High Blood Pressure: Garlic is regarded as one of the most effective remedies to lower blood

pressure. The pressure and tension are reduced because it has the power to ease the spasm of the small arteries.

It also slows the pulse and modifies the heart rhythm, besides relieving the symptoms of dizziness, shortness of breath and the formation of gas within the digestive tract. The average dosage should be two to three capsules a day to make a dent in the blood pressure.

Rheumatic Afflictions: In the Soviet Union, garlic is used extensively in the treatment of rheumatism and associated diseases. In Britain also, garlic is recommended to rheumatic sufferers. Recent experiments in Japan tested a Garlic extract on patients with lumbago and arthritis and a large number were

benefitted without any undesirable side-effects.

Garlic has been shown to exhibit an anti-inflammatory property which could account for its effectiveness in the treatment of arthritis and rheumatism.

The most popular method is to take the garlic cloves internally, although some reports indicate that pain can also be relieved by rubbing the affected parts with cloves of cut garlic. Garlic oil is rapidly absorbed through the skin and into the blood stream and quickly reaches the affected areas.

Heart Attacks: In a recent study, a West German doctor claims that garlic may prevent heart attacks. Professor Hams Reuter of Cologne University says that there is proof that garlic helps break up cholesterol in the blood vessels, thus helping in the prevention of hardening of arteries which leads to high blood pressure and heart attacks.

If a patient takes garlic after a heart attack, the cholesterol level will come down. The earlier damage may not be repaired but its consumption will minimise the chances of new attacks.

Cancer: Garlic preparations, including extracts and juices, have been used successfully against cancer in both animal and human studies, says Dr. Paavo Airola, a naturopathic physician and nutritionist. A study report tells of mice being injected with cancer cells.

Some of them were then treated with garlic extract and some were not. The mice not given garlic died within 16 days. The other mice lived for six months. And in Soviet studies, garlic preparations have been found to retard tumour growth not only in animals, but also in human

being, writes Dr. Airola.

Meningitis: Garlic has now been found to be effective in the treatment of the dreaded meningitis, a most fatal disease affecting children. A Chinese medical journal reported recently that of the 26 cases meningitis treated with garlic by Chinese physicians, 16 were totally cured. In five other cases, all symptoms of the brain disease vanished within a few days of treatment the remaining five cases ended fatally.

Skin Disorders: Garlic has been used successfully for a variety of skin disorders. Pimples disappear without leaving a scar when rubbed with raw garlic several times a day. Even very persistent acne, afflicting some adults, have been healed with garlic.

The external use of garlic helps to clear the skin of spots, pimples and boils. The process is further helped by taking the garlic internally also, to purify the bloodstream so as to secure a long-term clearance of the skin, a regular course of three garlic capsules per day should help to clear minor skin infections quickly.

Wounds and Ulcers: Garlic has been used as an antiseptic in wounds and ulceration with beneficial results. Garlic juice with three parts of distilled water has been employed as a lotion for cleaning infected wounds. Definite improvement is noticeable within 24 hours and substantial improvement within 48 hours.

Application of a dressing containing 15 per cent garlic juice once a day over an ulcer removes pus in a few days. It also relieves pain within a short time. Soviet physicians are making extensive use of garlic in the healing of wounds.

Diphtheria: Garlic is considered an excellent remedy for diphther-

ia. Chewing a clove of garlic removes the membranes, reduces temperature and relieves the patient. About one or two ounces of garlic can be used in this way in three or four hours. For a week after the membrane disappears, one or two ounces of garlic should be chewed daily. The patient has no sense of taste or smell and merely finds the garlic hot.

Whooping Cough: Garlic is an excellent remedy for whooping cough. A syrup of garlic should be given in doses of between five drops to a teaspoonful, two or three times a day in this condition. It should be given more often if the coughing spells are frequent and violent.

Physical Debility: Garlic is a natural and harmless aphrodisiac. Dr. Robinson, an eminent American sexologist considers that garlic has pronounced aphrodisiac effect.

Other Uses: Garlic is regarded as a rejuvenator. It has been found to help remove toxins, revitalise the blood, stimulate blood circulation and normalise intestinal flora. Garlic juice has a most beneficial effect on the system.

The ethers in garlic juice are so potent and penetrating that they help to dissolve accumulation of mucus in the sinus cavities, in the bronchial tubes and in the lungs. They help the exudation of poisons from the body through the pores of the skin.

Garlic is the most widely used for the cultivated Alliums after onions. It is used both as a food and seasoning. It is, however, extensively used as flavouring and seasoning in the preparation of soups, sauces and pickles. In Spain and Italy it is used in combination with almost every food. *Courtesy: Eve's Weekly.*

This week on JTV Channel 2...

On Sunday night 10:20 JTV Channel 2 presents another episode of Agatha Christie's "Poirot". This week's episode is entitled "The third floor flat."

Poirot disturbed one night in his London apartment by two young couples who have inadvertently discovered the murdered body of Mrs. Ernestine Grant in the third floor flat below.

On Tuesday night at 10:20, JTV Channel 2 presents another episode of the weekly series "Hunger". This week's episode is entitled "Silver Bullet."

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Intifada shakes shekel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel devalued its currency, the shekel, by just over four per cent against the dollar Friday in a bid to revive a stagnant economy badly hit by the Palestinian uprising.

Finance Minister Shimon Peres said the second devaluation in six months was intended to stimulate export-led growth without fuelling inflation.

A Bank of Israel spokesman said the shekel's value had been allowed to slide by a total of 10.8 per cent since the last formal devaluation on Jan. 1.

Officials said the move should not cause significant price rises as domestic demand was slack, with consumers having little money to spend on imported goods.

"The rises are expected to be absorbed by manufacturers," Yoram Belizovsky, director-general of the trade and industry ministry, said on Israel Radio.

Peres told the cabinet last Sunday that the 18-month-old uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip had caused a more severe economic slowdown than previously forecast.

The central bureau of statistics

said the economy showed no growth at all in the first four months of this year, while industrial output continued to decline.

Officials said that apart from disrupting a flow of cheap Palestinian labour to Israel, the uprising had drastically reduced Israeli exports of basic goods to the occupied territories, raised defence costs and created a climate of uncertainty harmful to investment.

About 120,000 Palestinians work in Israel. Their work has been disrupted by frequent strikes, prolonged curfews and army restrictions on their movements.

Peres and Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno said they decided on the devaluation six weeks ago to help overcome the recession.

But well-informed central bank sources said the minister was forced into the devaluation by

large speculative purchases of dollar last week by corporations and the public.

The devaluation set the shekel rate at 2.0175 to the dollar, against 1.9325 on Thursday.

Most bankers and industrialists reacted favourably to the move, saying it would help achieve growth without spurring inflation now running at an annual rate of nearly 20 per cent.

Peres has said the inflation rate will fall to single figures by the end of this year.

Haaretz newspaper said the devaluation came just in time and would encourage manufacturers to expand, reducing an unemployment rate that has risen to 8.2 per cent.

But Danny Gillerman, chairman of Israel's chambers of commerce, said in a statement "The devaluation is a surrender to pressure from interest groups. It will solve none of the basic problems of the economy."

An International Monetary Fund report on the Israeli economy issued last week blamed the current slowdown partly on the government's failure to devalue soon enough last year.

EC president renews call for monetary union plan

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Just before a summit of European leaders, a key official of the European Community (EC) Friday appealed for acceptance of a plan for a common currency and monetary policies in the trading bloc.

Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, the group's executive body, said the leaders must take a stand on a report outlining steps toward a monetary and economic union of the 12 nations.

"We simply have to know yes or no whether they accept the report as a whole," he told a news conference.

His insistence on this issue will no doubt put him at odds with Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at the gathering in Madrid of the leaders of the Common Market Nations. The meeting begins Monday.

Britain has expressed opposition to parts of the plan, saying countries would be forced to give up some of their sovereignty to new institutions.

European finance ministers agreed last month to spell out the measures necessary for better coordination of economic policies. But they failed to embrace

the entire report with its sweeping proposals for monetary union.

Delors said the finance ministers' decision "does not satisfy me at all" and meant that "the report was not accepted."

The report's proposals, he said, "make up a whole and must be accepted as such."

He said the report had received widespread support except from what he described as "monetarist fundamentalists, ayatollahs of the monetarist movement."

The report, which was released in April, urged the EC nations to begin the move toward economic and monetary union by July 1, 1990.

It is part of the push to form a barrier-free, European-wide market by the end of 1992. Such a goal would allow people, goods, services and money to move freely among the countries.

The monetary report was drawn up by a 17-member committee, made up mostly of European central bankers. Delors was chairman of the panel.

The committee's recommendations would require major changes in the way in which the nations conduct economic and monetary policy. The proposed

changes were broken down into three phases.

At the new conference, Delors said the countries must accept all three stages — or none at all.

British officials have said they would be willing to begin work on the first stage, which would mean closer cooperation on economic and monetary matters. They have also agreed on further study of stages two and three, which would lead to creation of a European system of central banks and a common currency.

At their meeting in S'Agaro, Spain, the finance ministers said Community officials should set out what needs to be done in the first stage. They also asked for more details on the other two stages before deciding whether to make changes in the Treaty of Rome, which sets the legal foundation for the European-wide market in 1992.

The report said monetary union would require a single monetary policy. Responsibility for shaping that policy would be placed in a decision-making body, which would be called the European System of Central Banks.

It recommended that a single currency eventually be created.

Third World wants debt cut, more access to 'North'

CARACAS (R) — The Third World wants a substantial cut in its \$1.3 trillion foreign debt and more finance for development projects.

Delegates to a meeting of the Group of 77 (G-77) developing nations said they needed greater access to the markets of the industrialised North without which they would be unable to pay their debts.

"It is possible to sustain a world divided between the haves and the have-nots," the 128-member group, named for the

number of its founding members, said in a statement late Friday night after a five-day meeting.

"The G-77 calls for a substantial and timely reduction of the stock and service of external debt of developing countries as well as a significant flow of new financial resources commensurate with their economic needs," the statement said.

The developing countries also called for new international accords to help them raise exports to earn the money to pay off debts and finance development

projects.

They said the protectionist trade policies of some industrialised countries and subsidies for commodity production and export should be stopped.

The big markets of the United States and the European Community had to remain open to Third World goods if the poor nations were to develop and earn enough money to pay off their debts, Pakistan's delegate said.

"Unless the debtors have access to the markets of the North, there is no way their debt can be paid," he said.

Other delegates said the group had failed to improve living standards and some countries were falling still further behind the rich northern nations.

"Absolute poverty has increased in many parts of the world," the statement said.

A South-North accord, the statement said, could resolve the inter-related issues of money, trade and development.

Indian Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, said "our world grows more interdependent but also more unequal" while Indonesian delegate Poedji Koenarsa said the 1980s would be remembered as "the lost decade for development."

Cooperation with the rich was more important "than both the dubious notion of passive reliance on raw free market forces and the fallacy of charity," Koenarsa added.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Belgium halts loans, aid to China

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgium has frozen state loans to China and stopped funding for new development projects in protest against Peking's continuing crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators, the foreign ministry has said. It had also suspended high-level visits between the two countries, a spokesman said. The freeze affects an agreed 300-million-franc (\$7.5 million) loan and any new loans until further notice. Japan and the World Bank have announced delays in providing loans to China and the United States has urged international lending institutions to delay consideration of loans to China. Chinese Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun was quoted in the official party newspaper The People's Daily as saying that countries which had cut loans to China were "short-sighted". "This will not last long and is not to their advantage," he noted.

Hyundai gets \$162m Soviet order

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The Soviet Union has ordered six 24,000-ton bulk carriers, worth \$162 million, from South Korea's Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., trade and industry ministry officials have said. They said the contract calls for delivery to begin in early 1991. Hyundai officials declined to discuss the contract, including payment terms. Hyundai Heavy Industries operates South Korea's biggest shipyard in Ulsan on the east coast. The newspaper Korea Herald said the Export-Import Bank of Korea would provide a loan to cover 80 per cent of the financing for the shipbuilding for the Soviet ministry of merchant marine, which is buying the ships on a deferred payment basis. But the state-run bank said it was still studying whether to finance the order. South Korea and the Soviet Union have yet to establish diplomatic relations, although the two countries recently exchanged trade offices.

Mauritius liberalises exchange controls

PORT LOUIS (R) — Mauritian Finance Minister Vishnu Lutchmeenaraidoo has cut the Indian Ocean island's capital transfer tax to 15 per cent from 45 per cent in a liberalisation of foreign exchange controls. Lutchmeenaraidoo said he expected the economy to grow by five per cent this year, compared with an average eight per cent a year over the past four years. He forecast inflation would rise in the financial year ending next June to about 16 per cent from 1.5 per cent because of last year's steep public sector pay increases. Lutchmeenaraidoo did not increase public sector pay or raise taxes in the budget he presented. He said he expected the current account balance of payments surplus to fall to 657 million rupees (\$41.6 million) in 1989-90 from 960 million rupees (\$61 million) in 1988-89, with exports up 10 per cent and imports rising 13 per cent. Mauritius expects to grant eight to 10 offshore banking licences this year and will enact legislation allowing the establishment of offshore companies on the island, a move bankers say is needed if offshore banking is to succeed. Lutchmeenaraidoo also said he would exempt ship owners of Mauritian-registered vessels from income tax in a bid to boost the island's fleet of half a dozen chartered craft.

Soviets to get Siemens computers

MUNICH, West Germany (AP) — Siemens A.G. will deliver 300,000 personal computers to the Soviet Union under a deal worth about 1.5 billion marks (\$750 million), a company spokesman has said. The computers will be delivered over the next three years, he added. Under the contract, the West German electronics group will also train Soviet computer experts and transfer enough of the technology and know-how for the Soviets to start manufacturing some computer components, he said.

Flight demand may triple by 2000

GENEVA (AP) — Airlines may have to triple the number of flights in Europe by the year 2000 if they are to keep up with the expected increase in passengers, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has said. Such an increase in capacity will only be possible if governments spend more money on expanding airports and runways and set up a central European air traffic control system to tackle air congestion, said John Brindley, spokesman for the air industry lobby. IATA had previously predicted the number of flights would have to double by the end of the century to meet anticipated demand. Brindley said in 1988 about 137 million people travelled on scheduled flights operated by the major European airlines. This did not include passengers on charter flights or on smaller airlines, he said. The Geneva based group representing most of the world's commercial airlines estimates that international air traffic currently totals about one billion passengers per year.

Malaysian car sales exceed 117,000

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — More than 117,000 Proton Sagas, Malaysia's only domestically produced passenger car, have been sold since the vehicle was launched in July 1985, a government official said. In response to questions in parliament, Sulaiman Daud, minister in the prime minister's department, said from July 1985 to May 30, 5,280 Proton Sagas were sold in Sri Lanka, Malta, Bangladesh, Britain, Singapore, New Zealand and other countries. In Malaysia, 112,236 Sagas, which resemble the Nissan Sunny and Toyota Corolla, were sold by April 30 of this year, Sulaiman said. The car cannot be sold in some countries because there are no left-hand-side steering models, he said.

Societe Generale offers shares

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Almost 11 per cent of Societe Generale De Belgique's stock will be offered at 3,000 francs (\$72.4) a share this week to increase the public's stake in Belgium's top holding company, officials have said. The offer for the seven million shares will be officially launched Monday. Sodinvest S.A., which is selling the stocks, said in a statement the 3,000-franc price represents about a 10 per cent discount to the stock exchange value of Societe Generale's total stock portfolio of 210 billion francs (\$5.05 billion). With the sale of Sodinvest's stake in the company, the portion of Societe Generale shares in public hands will increase to 13 per cent from two per cent.

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Norway extends oil output curb

OSLO (Agencies) — The Norwegian government said Friday that curbs on production from its North Sea oil fields will be extended by six months in support of OPEC's efforts to improve crude prices.

Norway's oil ministry said in a press release that production in the second half of 1989 will average 1.55 million barrels a day, 7.5 per cent below capacity.

The ministry said the 7.5 per cent curb was extended until Dec. 31 because Norway is satisfied with the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC's) proposals for stabilising prices.

Despite the limit, first imposed in 1987, Norway's crude flows will increase 100,000 barrels a day compared to the first half of the year and almost 30 per cent over 1988.

Some OPEC nations have criticised Norway, which is not a member of OPEC, for over-producing.

But Norwegian oil ministry spokesman Egil Helle said earlier that "most nations understand that production is increasing now because of decisions made in the early 1980s."

Meanwhile, energy giant B.P. thinks world oil demand is now rising so fast that jittery consumer

governments may act to protect themselves against a resurgent OPEC.

Concern for energy security, plus pollution worries, promise "a shift in the fuel mix" favouring natural gas, said John Browne, a top executive of British Petroleum (B.P.) Co. PLC.

Gas is the cleanest fossil fuel and is outside control of OPEC. Browne, head of B.P. exploration, was commenting on B.P. figures showing world energy demand rose 3.7 per cent in 1988 compared with 2.8 per cent in 1987.

The figures were contained in the annual B.P. statistical review, a major event in the oil industry calendar.

It said weak oil prices and robust economic expansion were behind an overall rise in world

consumption which was "most rapid in Asia, although U.S. demand and oil imports were also higher."

Browne drew attention to other figures showing that 82 per cent of remaining world oil reserves, currently enough for 43 years, belonged to OPEC.

"Governments will be looking for security of supply," he said. "There is also clearly a concern about the environment, coming from the United States, into Europe and to the Third World."

"I believe these two factors together will contribute to a shift in the fuel mix and the beneficiary will be gas," he noted.

Trade in liquefied natural gas (LNG) was just beginning to be significant, he said, adding that B.P. was fortunate in that it had substantial gas reserves.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, June 24, 1989					
Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell	French franc	85.2	86.1
U.S. dollar	562.1	568.1	Japanese yen (for 100)	405.2	409.3
Pound Sterling	880.4	885.8	Deutsche mark	256.9	259.5
Deutschemark	282	282.1	Swedish crown	35.4	36.5
Swiss franc	337.2	340.6	Italian lire (for 100)	39.9	40.5
			Belgian franc (for 10)	138.6	140.9

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (I.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities in the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday June 17, '89 and ending Wednesday June 21, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Per value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	1260	2643	2,090	2,100	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	8696	12700	1,450	1,460	1,000
Jordan Gulf Bank	9659	10225	1,120	1,120	1,000
Housing Bank	8800	16086	1,800	1,830	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	250	600	2,370	2,400	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5,000
Bank of Jordan	567	8691	15,200	15,250	5,000
Arab Bank	10170	160244	148,750	165,000	10,000
Jordan National Bank	15390	37969	2,480	2,470	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	4250	9390	2,520	2,450	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Financial Investments	1565	2956	1,860	1,900	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	231783	301508	1,200	1,340	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	36321	69981	1,860	1,950	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2,000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	16800	21812	1,220	1,270	1,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
REPCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Insurance	11440	40090	3,470	3,450	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	8025	8208	1,040	1,030	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphus Insurance	55453	72813	1,250	1,360	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Arabia Insurance	12477	17978	1,380	1,450	1,000
National Abliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Services and industries					
General Investments	—	—	—	—	1,000
Imna for Investment and Financial Facilities	11912	11325	0,920	0,970	1,000
Darco for Housing and Investment	194972	162041	0,800	0,810	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	81167	52562	0,630	0,650	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	39678	14263	0,330	0,330	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	26500	4505	0,670	0,670	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	106000	43181	0,860	0,890	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	4720	70080	1,500	1,500	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	300	243	0,810	0,810	1,000
Arab International Hotels	186790	246213	1,330	1,290	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	2041	4449	2,180	2,180	1,000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	112	504	4,600	4,500	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	65106	86808	1,330	1,290	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	1050	2837	2,700	2,730	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	39670	17315	0,360	0,420	1,000
Jordan Dairy	106057	124419	1,130	1,170	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	90199	324085	3,570	3,620	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	316300	696569	2,140	2,210	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	1067	4247	3,950	4,000	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	35786	64878	1,800	1,790	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	100	454	4,580	4,540	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	500	315	0,920	0,890	1,000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdin Industries	336976	809113	2,280	2,440	1,000
Arab Aluminum Manufacturing	49739	112082	2,230	2,230	1,000
Jordan Worsted Mills	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	36225	81282	2,140	2,200	1,000
Chemical Industries	62600	154075	2,330	2,500	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	320891	317537	0,900	1,010	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	11262	30256	2,710	2,670	1,000
Jordan Investment and International Trade	653210	461641	0,710	0,790	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (TWCO)	115400	325734	2,620	2,760	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	21170	48866	2,300	2,270	1,000
Refin Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	2850	11405	3,950	4,050	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	342375	400053	1,120	1,140	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mines	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Wooden Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning	878	1721	1,980	1,950	1,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	468	1989	4,250	4,250	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mias Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	260393	467274	1,640	1,740	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	6500	16305	2,630	3,480	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	163417	219024	1,330	1,300	1,000
Jordan Synthetic Chemicals	39400	87537	2,250	2,160	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	63152	66687	1,080	1,040	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	36729	37835	1,010	1,030	1,000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	231876	189630	0,790	0,790	1,000
Grand total	4,543,874	9,275,058			



Alghar: one of many hard-fought battles for possession in yesterday's match between Iraq's Al Zawra and Egypt's Al Ahli

Iraqis win first ACC championship game

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — Midfielder Saad Abdul Rahim hammered the ball past a draw-out goalkeeper Friday to give Al Zawra of Iraq a 1-0 victory over Al Ahli Egypt in the first match of the inaugural Arab Cooperation Council soccer championship.

The series at King Hussein Youth City matches the championship teams from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen.

Abdul-Rahim scored in the 18th minute by intercepting a misplaced Egyptian pass and

tackling goalkeeper Ihab Jilal. Al Ahli missed a golden chance in the 8th minute when Omar Anwar caught a loose ball near the goal mouth and golfed it over the net.

Neither team played up to advance billings. The Egyptians brought largely a youth squad because an upcoming World Cup qualifying match was occupying some of Ahli's best players.

The next meeting Sunday pits Al-Faisali of Jordan against Al Ahli of North Yemen. The series continues through next Friday.

Swiss dominate cycling

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — Veteran albrander Beat Breu won the 1989 tour of Switzerland and Urs Freuler captured the last leg as Swiss riders dominated an uneventful windup of the 10-day, 1,829-kilometre (1,136 miles) road cycling race.

Freuler edged countryman Joerg Bruggmann, second, and

Canada's Steve Bauer, third to lead a field of 86 cyclists who had stayed together from the start to finish all in the same time.

They were clocked 3 hours 55:05 minutes for the final 161-kilometre (100 miles) leg from Brugg to this most populous Swiss city. The average speed was 40.964 kilometres per hour.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BURRELL AND SOWELL HEAD CLASSY FIELD — Leroy Burrell and Dawn Sowell, the latest in the illustrious line of great American sprinters, head a classy field assembled for the Lausanne Grand Prix athletics meeting Tuesday. Only three men have clocked faster times than Burrell's 9.94 seconds for the 100 metres at the U.S. championships this month while Sorrell's altitude-assisted 10.78 has been bettered by only two women. At a news conference Thursday the organisers said a record budget of nearly 1.2 million Swiss francs (\$800,000) had assured the presence of 14 Olympic and 13 world champions. They include Olympic and world 100 metres and long jump champion Carl Lewis, who takes part in only the latter event and his training partner Joe DeLoach, the Olympic 200 metres champion. DeLoach will race against fellow-American Butch Reynolds, the world 400 metres record holder, who steps down a distance. (R)

AUSTRALIANS STORM TO HOCKEY VICTORY — Centre-forward Kim Small scored a hat-trick in Canberra Saturday as Olympic gold Medalist Australia stormed to a 7-3 victory over arch-rival New Zealand in a women's field hockey international. Australia, which beat South Korea in the final of the Seoul Olympic tournament last year, raced to a 5-0 lead after only 25 minutes before easing up in the second half. The win gave the Australians a 4-0 winning lead in the six-match series against New Zealand. Fullback Chris Dobson contributed two short corner goals for Australia, while captain Sharon Patmore also scored twice. New Zealand captain Mary Clinton scored two goals from short corners, while vice-captain Chris Arthur was the other Kiwi Scorer. (AP)

COLIN DEFEATS KINGDOM IN HURDLES — Briton Colin Jackson defeated Olympic champion Roger Kingdom in the 110 metres hurdles in Birmingham Friday in a 7-3 victory over arch-rival New Zealand in a match between Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union and West Germany. Kingdom, who arrived in Britain only a few hours before the race, crashed into the last barrier and said later: "I struggled at the start and still felt a bit tired." Jackson said he was amazed at his time. "You have to put Kingdom's performance into perspective," he said. "He was obviously not properly prepared for the race. Even so, he might have had difficulty in staying with me on this performance." (R)

HARDING TO CHALLENGE WBC CHAMPION — Jeff Harding recently walked into the office of his promoter Bill Mordey in Australia to find out what was happening with his boxing career. "We're going to Atlantic City and fight for the championship," Mordey said. That's what the 24-year-old Harding will do Saturday at the Trump Plaza against World Boxing Council light heavyweight champion Dennis Andrieu, who is a native of Guyana, a British citizen and a resident of Detroit. The scheduled 12-round bout will be the first half of a light heavyweight title doubleheader. Charles Williams, the International Boxing Federation champion, will meet fellow American Bobby Czyz Sunday in a scheduled 12-round rematch. (AP)

Chang gets centre court opening

LONDON (R) — Michael Chang, 17-year-old winner of the French Open two weeks ago, has been rewarded with a centre court match when Wimbledon starts Monday.

Chang, whose success in Paris made him the youngest winner of a Grand Slam title, will play fellow-American Bill Scanlon in the third match.

In fact the ninth-seeded Chang already has experience of the game's most famous arena. Last year when he lost to Frenchman Henri Leconte he was the youngest player ever to appear in a Wimbledon men's singles on centre court.

In keeping with tradition, defending champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden, beaten by Chang in the French final, plays the opening game on centre court against Canadian Chris Fridham and will be followed by former champion Jimmy Connors against Russian Andrei Cherkasov.

Ivan Lendl, the top seed, opens the court one programme against 18-year-old Nicolas Pereira, the Venezuelan world junior champion who beat Edberg in the first round of the London grass-court tournament 11 days ago.

Australian Mark Woodforde, who took Lendl to five sets at Wimbledon last year, follows the American-based Czechoslovak against South African Christo Van Rensburg.

West German Boris Becker, who lost to Edberg in the final last year, will play on court two against American qualifier Brian Shelton from Huntsville, Alabama.

John McEnroe, whose clash with Australian Darren Cahill promises to be the best of the first-round matches, will not play until Tuesday.

Order of play on centre court on Monday:

Italy denies Cup will be open house for hooligans

ROME (R) — Italian officials Friday strongly denied British press reports that the 1990 World Cup would be an "open house" for English soccer hooligans.

They said strict controls and identity checks had been agreed with the English Football Association (F.A.) to prevent known hooligans from obtaining tickets for the competition.

The officials were reacting to a report in a London newspaper that said tickets would be sold indiscriminately to any fans with the money to buy them.

Gian Paolo Segala, a spokesman for the World Cup organising committee Italia 90, said all people buying tickets in Italy — only allowed through BNL, the biggest state bank — have to show identity documents.

They would then be given vouchers to be exchanged for tickets next May — allowing time for police checks.

Dario Borgogno, assistant to Italia 90 general manager Luca Di Montezemolo, said a meeting was held with the F.A. on March 3 to agree on measures to stop hooligans into World Cup matches.

He said that in Britain, as well as Italy, tickets would not be exchanged for vouchers until next May. BNL would send a list of all buyers to the F.A. for checking before tickets were handed over.

He said that in any case it was highly unlikely that violent soccer fans would buy the expensive

books of tickets from a bank. He said the fans normally arrived in large groups without tickets, hoping to buy them on the spot.

But he said English and Italian police were cooperating to identify groups of hooligans travelling to Italy and they would be stopped at the frontier.

Tickets would also be distributed in England by tour operators who are required to transmit the names of clients to the F.A., Borgogno said.

He added that he had spoken to the F.A. Friday and they were not concerned about the danger of indiscriminate ticket sales.

Italian officials said ticket sales in Britain had so far been low and were not expected to take off until after the draw for the competition in December.

Witt whips Orioles' roll

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Mike Witt cooled off Baltimore with a six-hitter and Claudell Washington and Jack Howell homered as the California Angels snapped the Orioles' seven-game winning streak 5-1 Friday night.

Witt walked one and struck out four in stopping California's four-game losing streak. He lost his shutout bid in the eighth when Baltimore scored on a double by Rene Gonzalez and a pair of groundouts.

Before resorting to the long ball, the Angels took a 1-0 lead in the fourth inning thanks to Baltimore catcher Mickey Tettleton's first error in 97 games. Devon White bunted for a hit, stole second and third and continued home when Tettleton's throw to third was wild.

Washington's ninth homer made it 2-0 in the sixth and the Angels added three runs off Dave

Schmidt, 7-6, in the seventh. Brian Downing led off with a walk and was sacrificed to second. Bill Schroeder singled to score Downing and Howell hit his seventh homer.

Blue Jays 10, Athletics 8; Rookie junior Felix had two of his four hits in Toronto's seven-run first inning and Dewayne Buice yielded one unearned run in 4 2-3 innings of relief.

Twins 10, Red Sox 0; Gary Gaetti drove in five runs with a pair of homers and Frank Viola scattered six singles over eight innings for his first victory since June 3.

Royals 3, Yankees 0; Mark Gubicza scattered eight singles and Matt Winters singled home the first of two second-inning runs as Kansas City padded its home record to 26-8, best in the Majors.

Rangers 4, Indians 0; Mike Jeffcoat pitched a four-hitter for his second consecutive Arlington stadium shutout and Cecil Espy homered to pace Texas to the victory.

Brewers 17, White Sox 5 White Sox 6, Brewers 4 Dan Pasqua hit two home runs and Melido Perez struck out a career-high 12 in 7 2-3 innings for his first victory since May 27 in the nightcap. In the second game, Ivan Calderon hit a two-run homer off Bryan Clutterbuck and Pasqua hit a two-run shot in the second and a solo homer in the fourth.

Tigers 5, Mariners 4; Detroit tied the game on a two-out throwing error by Seattle first baseman Darnell Coles in the ninth inning and Alan Trammell, just off the disabled list, followed with an RBI single.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND ORAN SHARF
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ATTACK THE DANGER HAND

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 5
♥ Q 10 7
♦ K 7 4
♣ A J 10 6 3

EAST
♠ K J 6 4 3
♥ A 9 8
♦ J 3 2
♣ 5 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 8
♥ K J 3
♦ A 5 3
♣ Q 9 8 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠

Most declarers have a natural tendency to go after their long suit first. That's fine and dandy if it yields enough tricks to make your contract. If not, other considerations could apply.

The auction was a matter of simple arithmetic. With a balanced hand, a fair five-card minor and no slam interest, North was quite correct in raising to three no trump instead of responding three clubs.

West led his fourth-best spade, and East's ten was taken by the queen. Declarer tried the club finesse. In with the king, East returned a spade. Declarer held up one round, but his ace was forced out on the next round. Declarer had only eight tricks. When he tried to set up a heart trick, West grabbed the ace and cashed two more spade tricks for a one-trick set.

Had declarer realized that he would not have enough tricks for his contract were the club finesse to fail, he might have found the winning line. He must first attack the entry to the danger hand—in this case, West. Suppose that, at trick two, declarer were to lead the king of hearts. Should West hold up the ace, declarer can score two spade tricks, two diamonds and a heart, so he will need only four club tricks. He can then take the club finesse with impunity.

Best defense is for West to grab his ace of hearts and continue with spades. Now declarer must hold up the ace of spades for one round. When he then loses a club to East, either that defender would be out of spades or else the suit would be splitting 4-4. Either way, the contract would be secure.

By Matthew Engel

BEN Johnson's stint in the witness box in Toronto lasted barely seven hours, far less than expected.

He wasted little time on polysyllables or coherent sentences, and the lawyers were notably gentle with him.

After they had finished, the Commissioner, Justice Dubin, said he would like a word. He was clutching a copy of the interview Johnson gave on his return in disgrace from Seoul last year, in which the sprinter proclaimed his innocence, saying that someone had switched the samples, and demanded an inquiry.

"I think," said the judge, "it's fair to say most Canadians wanted to believe that. You understand that — everybody felt kindly towards you."

"Did you not realise how important it was — what a disservice it was to sign a statement like that?"

"I did wrong. But, like I say, I was confused at the time."

"Your lawyer has said you got a lot of letters of support from young people."

Johnson rose to the bait. "Thousands of letters, yes," he said proudly.

"Who all believed you were innocent, right?"

"Yes," said Johnson, much more quietly.

The inquiry has so far used up 58 days, 63 witnesses, 10,000 pages of transcripts and millions of dollars.

Innocence is a relative matter. We know now, if anyone had not already guessed it, that Johnson

took drugs and then lied.

Whether he is a dupe with the IQ of a nine-year-old or a shrewd cookie than he lets on remains a matter of dispute. But it is generally agreed that, as one of his team-mates put it, he is no rocket scientist.

The real innocent here is the mild-mannered and earnest nation which set up the inquiry. Visiting journalists regularly make fun of Canada. There is something about these grey countries, such as Belgium and New Zealand, in which people lead well-fed, contented, private and apolitical lives, which is fundamentally bad for business.

In sport, the Canadians have tried hard to be interesting. In 1976, at the Montreal Olympics, Canada emerged, humiliated, from its own show without a single gold medal.

Then it began to set up serious subsidised sports programmes. Only two years later, at the Edmonton Commonwealth Games, Canada finished top of the medals table. The Sports Minister announced, triumphantly, "We won the Games" — a concept no one else had considered before, still less crowded about. By the 1980s they had a genuine star to crow about: Ben Johnson.

In mid-scandal there was a half-hearted attempt to disown him ("Canada wins gold; Jamaican immigrant loses it") but Canadians, like everyone else, it seems, want to believe the best of Ben.

Already there is talk of forgiveness once his mandatory two-year ban ends next year. Dick Pound, the Canadian vice-president of

the IOC, has pointed out that a two-year ban to an athlete is like a 20-year sentence to a criminal. People are even beginning to look forward to his comeback.

The inquiry is very Canadian. Canada, still puzzled and hurt, has acted as though steroids were its own problem and it has done everyone a great service. The long, boring days in the anonymous Toronto office block may help cleanse the world.

Johnson is a liar, but his wheedling coach told him something close to the truth: "The whole world is using drugs."

Of course, there are clean sportsmen. But, while Johnson has been humiliated, there are countless others who have not been caught: big names, honoured names.

On the wall of the inquiry press room there is a list of 54 drugs to help us with our spelling.

They range from aqueous testosterone to yohimbine; pink pills, blue pills; milky-white stuff, reddish-brown liquid; taken in the mouth, taken up the bum. The list is by no means exhaustive.

No one can know the consequences of all these drugs: the long-term implications to the liver, the heart the sexual organs and the brain.

The dangers may be greatest to athletes not in organised drug rings like Johnson's, but those training alone in sports and coun-

tries where lavish funding is not available, people who might be desperate enough to exceed the stated dose.

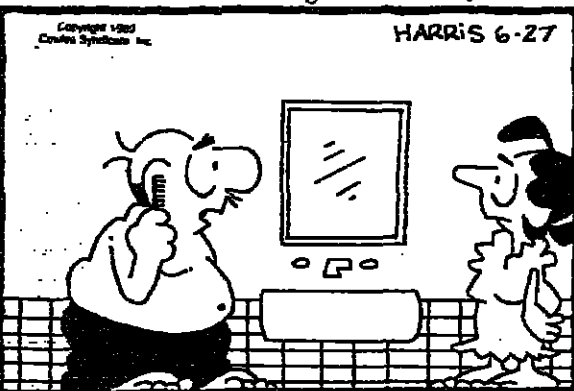
Success in many sports now involves a Faustian deal with anabolic steroids. And there is increasing evidence that it is spreading beyond the successful

— between six and 11 per cent of 16 and 17-year-olds in American high schools, according to recent surveys — and even beyond sportsmen to kids convinced that building up their muscles will help them pull girls.

(The Guardian)

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

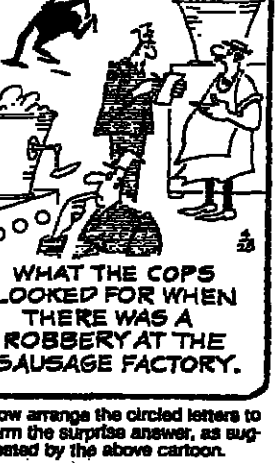


"I must be getting old. It takes one minute to comb my head, but SIX minutes to comb my ears and eyebrows!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MERIG
PRUNS
NELKEN
TINISS



WHAT THE COPS LOOKED FOR WHEN THERE WAS A ROBBERY AT THE SAUSAGE FACTORY.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE RESTAURANT THAT SERVED THOSE SUBSTANDARD SUBMARINE SANDWICHES? — IT WENT UNDER

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: There is action even when there is no action! Today is a time to think and plan. Intuitive ideas flow freely. Avoid idealizing the past and you will not miss the future. Think ahead.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Overcome a tendency to find fault with others. The desire to fulfill your ambitions is important. Failure is not part of your style.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Your ability to get along and promote harmony is an asset. Arrange an impromptu party. Compatibility is important to you today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Your ideas have a high mortality rate when they lack focus. You are in a creative cycle and your need for expansion and adventure is real.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You are demonstrative with your affection. There is a tendency to become emotional about an unpleasant incident.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You prefer to be the leader. Keeping an open mind can bring forth innovative ideas. Success is indicated, so shoot for the moon.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Overcoming too many activities into one day can wear you down. Avoid gambling. Love may sneak up on you in the evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) You demand loyalty from those around you. Put aside your checkbook — avoid extravagance. Do what is necessary to promote goodwill.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) The understanding mood you wake up with can be the foundation for a great day. You can make your own excitement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Mental power is defeated when emotional desire for sensual fulfillment runs your life. Family unity brings contentment at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) It is a great day to share your love and affection. You have good reason to be happy. Retire early and be health-conscious.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Smoothing over differences is a talent. Invite favorite people in for companionship. Be generous in your only love.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Taking a spiritual viewpoint will help a relationship grow. Personal relationships are in your favor. Avoid composing a love letter that reveals all!

Peanuts



B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART

Andy Capp



Angola civil war truce takes effect

KINSHASA, Zaire (AP) — A ceasefire went into effect Saturday in Angola, ending 14 years of civil war that killed tens of thousands of people and entangled the superpowers as well as Cuba and South Africa.

However, the Marxist government and the U.S.-backed rebels must still carry out difficult talks to make the pact a permanent peace.

Rebel leader Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola signed the truce and sealed it with a handshake late Thursday at an African summit in Zaire.

Savimbi, who left for home Friday to tell his forces to prepare for peace, said before departing, "I was not born to make war at all cost."

Savimbi's army has controlled most of southeastern Angola for years, administering schools and hospitals in rural areas occupied by up to three million of the country's nine million people.

Savimbi, son of a part-time Protestant preacher, told the Zairian news agency he was prepared to work "without preconditions" with dos Santos' government.

President Mobutu Sese Seko of

Zaire, a Savimbi ally credited with a prominent role in the reconciliation, will mediate future negotiations. The conservative Mobutu is to meet President George Bush in Washington Thursday to discuss peace in southern Africa, said White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater.

The summit of 20 African leaders in Zaire was the first meeting between dos Santos, 47, and Savimbi since the former allies in a struggle for black rule went to war in 1975 as Portuguese colonialists left Angola.

Their agreement took many people by surprise. As recently as Monday, Angolan Foreign Minister Afonso van Dunem said his government would not negotiate with the rebels.

Savimbi, born in 1934, leads the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), a socialist group backed by China, South Africa and

Washington. It has fought to share power with dos Santos' Marxist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, which is backed by Cuban forces and receives arms mainly from the Soviet Union. Despite thousands of foreign troops having supported both sides, neither the government nor the rebels came close to delivering a knockout blow in the war.

The ceasefire follows a U.S. brokered regional peace accord signed in New York in December. Under that earlier pact, South Africa agreed to grant independence to Namibia, Angola's southern neighbour, and halt aid to Savimbi's guerrillas in exchange for withdrawal of the 50,000 Cuban troops backing dos Santos' government. However, Savimbi was not party to that agreement.

His future role in Angola was not clear.

The Portuguese news agency LUSA said Saturday that Savimbi could become Angola's representative to the United States for a period of two years. The agency quoted unidentified Angolan officials as saying Savimbi could be



Jonas Savimbi

named "special counselor" to Washington.

Angola has been pushing for diplomatic recognition by the United States. There was no indication Savimbi's possible appointment would lead to recognition, and there was no independent confirmation of the LUSA report.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda said Savimbi will go into exile under terms of the new pact but did not provide details. Reports in Zaire said Savimbi's exile would be temporary, but did not elaborate.

Rebel sources in Washington, however, said Savimbi would stay in Angola.

Mobutu said Savimbi "reaffirmed that he had no intention of participating in the next government."

Greek premier too ill to talk politics

ATHENS (AP) — Hospitalised caretaker Premier Andreas Papandreu entrusted with an exploratory mandate to form a new government, remained under intensive care Saturday apparently too ill to conduct political consultations.

The socialist leader was given a mandate Friday by President Christos Sartzetakis after the conservative New Democracy Party failed to win the support of a leftist coalition.

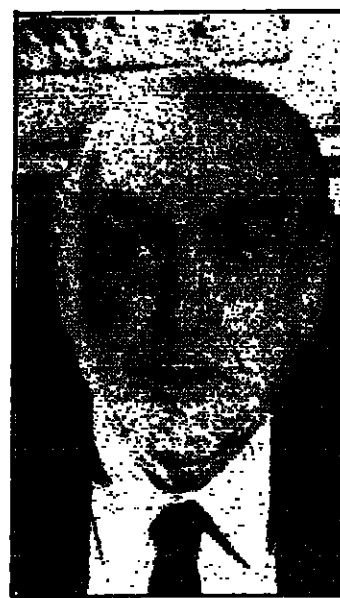
The 70-year-old Papandreu was admitted to the cardiac section of the General State Hospital Thursday night for treatment of a "respiratory infection," eight months after he underwent open heart surgery in London.

A report on Papandreu's health issued by the hospital said

"the medical treatment continues and the course of the illness is considered satisfactory." It gave no indication when Papandreu would be released.

Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement or PASOK, came in a distant second in national elections last Sunday to Constantine Mitsotakis' New Democracy Party after failing to win a third consecutive term. But no party received the necessary absolute majority in the 300-member parliament to form a government as PASOK got 125 seats and New Democracy 145.

Party officials said no official political contacts were scheduled over the weekend, giving rise to rumours that Papandreu was too ill to conduct face-to-face contacts with the coalition of the left



Andreas Papandreu

and progress to find a way out of the political crisis.

Meanwhile, over 40 members of PASOK's central committee called for an extraordinary meeting of the 141-member body, to analyse the post-election results.

Enraged gambler burns slot machine

RUBI, Spain (R) — A man became so enraged when he lost 33,000 pesetas (\$260) on a slot machine in a village in northern Spain that he doused it with petrol and set it alight. And Romero burned himself and his friends and was recovering in hospital under police guard, officials said Friday.

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Greek tanker springs leak off Rhode Island

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (R) — A Greek-registered tanker struck submerged rocks and leaked an eight-kilometre slick of fuel oil off Newport, Rhode Island, Friday, posing a potential threat to marine life and a yacht harbour where Americas Cup yacht races have been staged.

President George Bush acted quickly, ordering a six-member team to the area to inspect the spill and report back to him.

The spill near the mouth of Narragansett Bay, a popular recreational area, was the second in the United States in under four months.

President Bush had been criticised for responding too slowly in March when the supertanker Exxon Valdez spilled 42 million litres of crude oil into Prince William Sound in Alaska, causing a major pollution disaster.

But coast guard officials said Friday's oil slick apparently posed no threat to beaches in the

Rhode Island resort area. Coast guard and navy personnel rigged a boom around the vessel, preventing further oil from spreading.

Bush's team is headed by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator William Reilly and includes Richard Breeden, assistant to the president, and officials from the Defense and Interior Departments and the coast guard.

The group was to fly over the oil slick at first light Saturday, the White House said.

Bush was briefed on the Rhode Island oil spill at his weekend retreat at Camp David, Maryland.

"He expressed his deep concern and asked to be kept informed," a White House spokesman said.

The White House said early estimates indicated there was potentially a 5.5 million litre oil spill, about one-tenth the size of

the Alaskan spill. It said the coast guard had taken control of the cleanup and containment efforts.

Officials at Newport closed the entrance to the world famous yachting harbour with booms to protect boats moored in the port that was the headquarters for the last American defence of the Americas Cup in 1983.

The coast guard said the 170 metre World Prodigy, carrying 27 million litres of light-fuel oil, had stopped leaking oil into the sea.

Lieutenant John Gateley, a coast guard spokesman in Boston, said the type of fuel oil involved evaporated quickly. He said the next high tide was at midnight (0400 GMT) Friday, after which any remaining oil would probably start moving into Narragansett Bay.

The vessel was holed 10 kilometres south of Newport, the coast guard said, after running aground of a reef at the entrance to Narragansett Bay at about 5 p.m. (2100 GMT).



Karoly Grosz

Hungary changes party leadership

BUDAPEST (AP) — Reformer Reszko Nyers Saturday was named chairman of the ruling Communist Party and head of a new four-man body entrusted with interim stewardship of the party, a party spokesman said.

The party will be run by Nyers, two other prominent reformers, Imre Pozsgay of the politburo and Premier Miklos, and party General Secretary Karoly Grosz until October, party spokesman Laszlo Major said.

In October a party congress will decide on permanent leadership, Major said, in a statement published by the state MTI news agency.

Major said the party's policy-setting central committee had decided on the changes at a crisis meeting that opened Friday.

The promotion of Nyers, and the inclusion of Pozsgay and Nemeth in the four-man provisional leadership indicated Hungary's reformers had won a protracted internal battle with conservative communists.

It also spelled a setback for Grosz, a centrist increasingly criticised by reformists and conservative communists.

European leaders to meet on divisive issues

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — European leaders met in Spain early next week to try to remove some of the toughest obstacles remaining in their drive to create a united common market in late 1992.

Before the meeting, Jacques Delors, a top official of the European Community (EC), said a flurry of news articles about the gathering indicated "it may be somewhat explosive."

He didn't dispute that assessment.

When the EC leaders open their talks Monday in Madrid, sparks are certain to fly over a plan for the 12 nations to forge common monetary and economic policies as part of their push for a single market by the end of 1992.

Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has raised objections to part of the project, while Delors has insisted it must be accepted in whole or not at all.

"It's time to say now how we intend to proceed," said a senior French official, who spoke to reporters in Paris on condition he not be further identified. "We would like a clear and unequivocal commitment on the entire process."

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who will lead the sum-

mit discussions, is said to be determined to end the gathering with some type of agreement on the divisive issue.

The British also are expected to clash with some of their continental neighbours over a proposed declaration setting out social rights for the 320 million people who will be part of the unified common market.

Other, less-controversial items on the agenda involve environmental, financial and taxation policies.

The leaders also will discuss such pressing world issues as the conflicts in the Middle East and the turmoil in China.

"The agenda is very full," said Delors, who is president of the European Commission, the community's executive body, which is based in Brussels.

The dozen leaders, including Thatcher, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand, meet every six months to discuss issues in the trading bloc.

Their discussions have taken on more meaning as they deal with obstacles blocking the single, European-wide market scheduled to open up by late 1992.

Supporters of the idea propose allowing the free movement of

people, goods, services and money among the EC's member nations.

This week's summit promises to be more stormy than most because it will be the first time the leaders have had a chance to air their views on the new plan for monetary union.

The project, unveiled in a report released in April, calls for the European nations to change their economic and monetary policies to create a common currency and a central bank system.

The report was barely off the printing presses when British officials expressed their opposition to parts of the proposal because they felt it would require the nations to give up some of their sovereignty to new EC institutions.

Finance ministers, bowing to British opposition, adopted a go-slow approach to the plan at a meeting last month in S'Agaro, Spain.

But delors said Friday that wasn't good enough. "We simply have to know yes or no whether they accept the report as a whole," he said.

The French government believes monetary union is needed to gain all the benefits from the single market, said aides to Mitterrand.

Dog has his day in court

ROCKVILLE, Maryland (AP) — A dog who inherited his owner's \$102,000 house and fought off her relatives in a courtroom wrangle won another legal round Friday — This time to save his hide from the tax collector's needle.

When Celeste V. Crawford died in 1984, her will said Master Teddy could live in her Silver Spring home for the rest of his life, with a friend of hers allowed to live there to look after the dog. Her relatives went to court because they didn't want to wait for the dog's death, but three years ago a judge ruled they cannot inherit and divvy up proceeds from the house's sale until Teddy dies.

Fearing another white spitz could be substituted for Teddy, the six heirs next sought to have a Montgomery county circuit judge in Rockville order a veterinarian to tattoo Teddy's hind leg.

The heirs said the tattoo would positively identify the dog's body and serve as a safeguard against possible dog snatching.

Friday, just as a hearing on their new dispute was to begin, lawyers for both sides reached an out-of-court settlement that would enable their dog to be identified after its death without a tattoo.

Karl G. Feissner, an attorney for the dog's caretaker, said Teddy's veterinarian had X-rays and photographs that could properly identify the dog, and the

agreement would allow a detailed inspection of the dog's corpse to satisfy all parties.

"Everybody's going to look at this dog — everybody in the world," Feissner said. Earlier, he had suggested that if the judge had approved the tattooing, the heirs "should be tattooed too so we know who's who."

Ralph Gordon, who represents the heirs including Crawford's siblings, had refused to disclose any information about the legal action.

Chester A. Anderson, a veterinarian, said in an affidavit that tattooing was a "quick, painless and permanent method for identifying a dog."

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Dial-a-porn stays open for business

By Gary Langer
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The erotic department store remains open for business Saturday, its supposedly "sizzling" saleswomen talking sex by phone under no less an authority than the U.S. Supreme Court.

Their tape-recorded portrayals of sexual encounters — part of a multimillion-dollar business known as dial-a-porn — were ruled constitutional, within some restrictions, by a unanimous high court Friday.

The decision, based on the U.S. constitution's guarantee of free speech, rejected a federal law that sought to ban telephone pornography. Obscene messages can be banned, the court said, but simply "indecent" ones cannot.

The court did not define the difference between obscene and indecent.

"It's fantastic. The first amendment will not be put down," said Gloria Leonard, publisher of the sex magazine High Society and a leading dial-a-porn entrepreneur. "We feel very triumphant."

But telephone pornography opponents claimed victory, too.

"Many, many of these mes-

sages are obscene," said Len Munsil, lawyer for the Children's Legal Campaign in Phoenix.

As such, he said, they fall under the remaining ban.